

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND
FISHERIES.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF
PROCEEDINGS

UNDER
THE SALMON AND FRESHWATER
FISHERIES ACTS, &c., &c.,
FOR THE YEAR
1908.

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1910.

[Cd. 5039.] Price 3½d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
REPORT	iii
APPENDIX I.—Annual Returns from Boards of Con- servators	1
APPENDIX II.—Abstract of Accounts of Boards of Con- servators	30
APPENDIX III.—Summary of estimated number of Salmon Fishermen and of Revenue from Licence Duties... ..	32
APPENDIX IV.—List of Fishery Districts, with names and addresses of Chairmen and Clerks	33
APPENDIX V.—Annual and Weekly Close Seasons for Salmon and the Gaff Period in each District	35
APPENDIX VI.—Abstract of Byelaws for the Regulation of Netting	37
APPENDIX VII.—Annual Close Season for Trout and Char	44
APPENDIX VIII.—Maintenance of Gratings and Marking of Nets and Boats	45
APPENDIX IX.—Abstract of Byelaws under the Fresh- water Fisheries Act, 1884	46
APPENDIX X.—Close Season for Freshwater Fish (Ex- emptions)	49
APPENDIX XI.—Abstract of Byelaws under the Norfolk and Suffolk Fisheries Act, 1877	50

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES.

Report to the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries on the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, the following report on the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries of England and Wales for the year 1908.

FISHING SEASON OF 1908.

The following table summarises the general result of the year's fishing for both salmon and trout in each district as shown in the returns of the several Boards of Conservators, which are printed in full in Appendix I., pp. 1-29 :—

Name of District.	Report as to Salmon Fishing.	Report as to Trout Fishing.
EDEN	Above the average	Average.
DERWENT	Below the average	Poor.
WEST CUMBERLAND...	Above the average in tidal waters; below in fresh.	Good.
KENT, &c.	About the average	Good, except in Windermere.
LUNE	Above the average in tidal waters; about the average in fresh.	Good.
RIBBLE	About the average in tidal waters; below in fresh.	Good.
DER	Above the average	—
ELWY and CLWYD ...	Average	Average.
CONWAY	About the average in tidal waters; below in fresh.	Very good in early months.
SEIONT	Above the average	Above the average.
OWYFACH	Above the average	Improving.
DOVEY	Below the average in tidal waters; above in fresh.	Plentiful.
AYRON... ..	Above the average	Very good.
TRIFT	Do.	Above the average.
CLEDDY	Do.	Generally good.

Name of District.	Report as to Salmon Fishing.	Report as to Trout Fishing.
TOWY	Above the average in tidal waters; about the average in fresh.	Good.
OGMORE	About the average	Very good.
TAFF and ELY	—	Very fair.
RHYMEY	—	About the average.
USE and EBBW	Below the average	Above the average.
WYE	About the average in tidal waters; above in fresh.	Good season.
SEVERN	Average	Reports vary greatly.
AVON BRUE, &c.	Below the average	Fairly good.
TAW and TORRIDGE... ..	Above the average	Improved.
CAMEL	Average in tidal waters; below in fresh.	Poor season.
POWEY	Much below the average	Good in the unpolluted waters.
TAMAR and PLYM	Above the average in tidal waters; below in fresh.	Below the average.
AVON (DEVON)	Below the average	Average.
DART	Below the average in tidal waters; about the average in fresh.	Poor season.
TEIGN	About the average in tidal waters; below in fresh.	Poor.
EXE	Above the average	Fair season.
AXE	Below the average	Fair.
FROME	Do.	—
HAMPSHIRE RIVERS	—	—
ADUR	—	About the average.
CUCKMER	—	Average.
TRENT... ..	Below the average	Very good at commencement of season, poor later.
YORKSHIRE	Do.	Very fair.
ESK (YORKS)	Do.	Below the average.
TEES	About the average	Above the average.
WEAR	Above the average in tidal waters; below in fresh.	Poor season.
TYNE	Do. do.	Good at commencement of season, but much below the average later.
COQUET	About the average	Good.

From these reports, the salmon fishing season would appear to have been, on the whole, satisfactory, the catch in the Eden, Dee, Seiont, Dwyfach, Ayron, Teify, Cleddy, Taw and Torridge, and Exe, as well as in the tidal waters of the West Cumberland, Lunc, Towy, Tamar and Plym, Wear and Tyne districts, having been above the average; while in the Kent, Elwy and Clwyd, Ogmores, Severn, Tees, and Coquet, and in the tidal waters of the Ribble, Conway, Wye, Camel, and Teign it was up to the average.

In the case of the trout fisheries, most of the rivers yielded good results, and in only a few instances is the season reported to have been below the average.

SALMON RECEIVED AT BILLINGSGATE.

Messrs. W. Forbes Stuart and Co., Ltd., of Lower Thames Street, have been good enough to furnish for 1908, in continuation of the returns which they have for so many years supplied,

the figures in the following Return of the quantity of salmon recorded in their books as having been received at Billingsgate Market during the last ten years:—

RETURN of BOXES of SALMON RECEIVED at BILLINGSGATE, 1899 to 1908 (each box weighing about 1 cwt.).

(Prepared by Messrs. W. Forbes Stuart & Co., Limited.)

Year.	English and Welsh.	Berwick on Tweed.	Scotch.	Irish.	Dutch.	Swedish and Danish.	Norwegian.	French.	Canadian.	Total Boxes.	Total Weight, Tons.
1899	1,337	803	15,061	5,560	931	16	1,383	28	552	25,183	1,399
1900	1,368	721	14,300	5,721	179	16	1,663	62	539	24,388	1,313
1901	1,383	1,164	15,765	5,272	261	24	1,543	98	468	26,188	1,396
1902	1,050	863	18,464	5,819	339	—	1,448	86	767	29,776	1,601
1903	2,065	891	16,850	6,950	678	44*	1,800	14	600	29,843	1,601
1904	2,902	413	15,481	6,011	340	9*	1,215	—	253	26,543	1,327
1905	3,100	664	14,383	5,737	218	11*	1,363	4	400	26,877	1,392
1906	2,267	460	12,240	6,969	345	6*	1,804	14	1,613	26,638	1,391
1907	2,483	503	11,252	5,461	435	2*	2,029	6	501	22,740	1,137
1908	3,204	421	11,687	6,683	385	34*	1,663	6	63	24,663	1,266

* All Danish.

The figures in the next table are in respect of the same period, but are furnished by the Fishmongers Company. It will be observed that, while differing in detail, both tables tend to confirm the conclusion already arrived at as to the satisfactory nature of the past fishing season, since they agree in indicating a very considerable increase in the sales of English and Welsh Salmon in London in 1908, as compared with any previous year in the decade, excepting 1905.

RETURN of BOXES of SALMON RECEIVED at BILLINGSGATE, 1899 to 1908.

(Prepared by the Fishmongers Company.)

Year.	English, including Berwick.	Scotch.	Irish.	Dutch.	Norwegian.	Danish.	French.	German.	Canadian.	Total Boxes.
1899	1,603	15,411	4,265	584	1,251	—	—	8	278	23,485
1900	1,408	15,181	4,581	166	1,645	7	38	27	197	23,179
1901	1,641	16,646	4,514	278	1,401	18	50	20	190	24,745
1902	1,788	16,965	5,994	600	1,864	—	81	8	348	27,088*
1903	2,606	15,166	8,068	571	1,662	60	5	10	244	26,407
1904	3,177	14,728	6,528	362	1,124	44	7	—	275	26,394
1905	3,894	14,368	5,979	270	1,212	15	11	—	329	25,607
1906	2,590	12,282	7,160	327	1,665	5	16	—	699	24,684
1907	3,419	11,147	5,943	463	1,259	2	9	—	841	22,942
1908	3,743	11,078	8,061	368	1,548	8	15	10	378	23,810

* In addition, 100 boxes from Lapland arrived in London in August.

PRICE OF SALMON.

From other figures supplied by the Fishmongers Company, it appears that while the average price of salmon from all sources sold at Billingsgate during 1908 was 1s. 8½d. per lb., English salmon averaged 1s. 8½d., Scotch 1s. 8½d., and Irish 1s. 9d. per lb. The highest average monthly price for English salmon, viz., 4s. per lb., was reached in October, when the supply was limited to three

boxes. The next highest average price for English fish in any other month was 2s. 6d. (in March). The highest average monthly price for Irish fish was 5s. 5d. (in January) and for Scotch 2s. 6d. (in March). The highest price of all was realised by Dutch fish, which, in November, when only one box was in the market, fetched 7s. per lb., while, in the following month, thirty-five boxes from the same source were sold at 5s. 11½d. per lb.

"SEALING" OF SALMON FOR SALE DURING CLOSE SEASON.

The following are particulars of the salmon sealed by the Fishmongers Company during the close season of 1908-9.

Place.	Kind of Salmon Sealed.	Number Sealed.	Total.
Aberdeen	Scotch	318	318
Chesterfield	Canadian	39	39
Edinburgh	Scotch	192	192
Glasgow	Do.	388	563
	Canadian	175	
Hull	English	4	102
	Scotch	98	
Leicester	Scotch	5	17
	Canadian	12	
Liverpool	Scotch	100	4,814
	Canadian	4,455	
	British Columbian	259	
London	Scotch	78	5,953
	Canadian	754	
	British Columbian	989	
Nottingham	Siberian	4,132	79
	Irish	2	
Southampton	Canadian	77	126
	Scotch	73	
	Canadian	53	
	Total ...	12,203	

It is interesting to note the first large consignment of Siberian salmon to the London market, included in the table. These fish are said to be caught at the mouth of the River Amur, which flows into the sea at Okhotsh.

SALMON DISEASE.

The reports with regard to "Salmon disease" for 1908 are even more satisfactory than in 1907, which was an exceptionally good year. The only rivers in which disease is said to have been "bad" were the Kent and the upper waters of the Usk. In the Esk, 30 male and 15 female fish were observed to be affected; but these were fewer than usual. In the Tyne, where 604 fish died in the first three months of 1906, only 89 cases (all of males) occurred in 1908 (in January and February). In the Teify, however, there were 25 cases, as compared with 11 in the preceding year.

TRAFFIC IN FISH IN CLOSE SEASON.

During the year, the Fishmongers Company took proceedings in a number of cases of alleged breach of those provisions of the Acts which relate more particularly to the traffic in the young of salmon and in unclean and unseasonable fish, and to the possession of illegal instruments.

Only two of these cases, however, were in English or Welsh courts. In the first, heard in London on the 9th March, 1908, the defendant was charged with possession for sale of one unseasonable salmon (seized at Billingsgate Market), and was fined 10s. with £5 5s. costs; or 7 days' imprisonment. In the other, also heard in London, on the 4th December, 1908, a restaurant keeper was charged with selling trout during the close season. In defence, it was contended that the trout in question were of the kind known as "Rainbow" trout, and that the statutory close season did not apply to these. The defendant was, however, convicted and fined 10s., with £2 2s. costs. A second summons in respect of a like offence on another date was withdrawn on payment of costs.

PROVISIONAL ORDERS FOR THE REGULATION OF
FISHERIES.

The power conferred upon the Board by the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1907, to make Provisional Orders for the regulation of the fisheries in any area was exercised during the year in two cases, viz., with regard to the Usk and the Wye Fishery Districts.

The Orders were duly confirmed by Parliament—the one by the Usk Fisheries Provisional Order Confirmation Act, 1908 (8 Edw. 7 Ch. cxl.), the other by the Wye Fisheries Provisional Order Confirmation Act, 1908 (8 Edw. 7 Ch. cxli.). Each Order provides *inter alia* for the imposition of contributions assessed on private fisheries, for the acquisition and working by the Conservators of fixed engines for salmon and for the issue of licences to persons fishing for freshwater fish. Sufficient time has not yet elapsed to enable full effect to be given to the whole of the new powers conferred on the Conservators, but in both Districts the operation of the Orders has, so far, given general satisfaction. Several other applications for similar Orders have been received and Draft Orders have been prepared for the Lune, the Severn and the Yorkshire Districts.

SALMON MARKING.

The Board's experiments in connection with the marking of salmon were continued in various districts during the year 1908. The heavy pressure of work upon the small staff of the Department prevents the discussion in the present report of the results which have been attained. It is hoped, however, that the matter may be fully dealt with in the next annual report.

MIGRATION OF ELVERS.

Within the last 15 years, mainly through the researches of the two Italian naturalists, Grassi and Calandruccio, and the Danish investigator, Schmidt, much definite information has been gained regarding the habits of the common eel, its mode of reproduction, and its spawning grounds. The history of the eel had previously been wrapped in obscurity. It was more or less legendary, and was the subject of theories so ludicrous that, in the light of present day knowledge, it is difficult to understand how they could ever have gained credence.

The eel is now known to be oviparous, laying its eggs in the deeper areas of the sea, from which the young fry or elvers annually ascend our rivers, coming chiefly from those portions of the Atlantic slope where the depth ranges from 1,000 to 2,000 metres.

After a period of uncertain duration in fresh water, on approaching maturity, these elvers, now eels, in the late summer or autumn commence their return journey to the sea, where spawning takes place; and it is probable that, even if they survive the operation of spawning, they never come back to fresh water. The annual yield of the breeding grounds as a whole—as evidenced by the myriads of elvers entering our rivers every spring—is so enormous that it is unlikely that any amount of fishing within the bounds of possibility could materially affect the total stock.

But it is a matter of considerable scientific interest, and possibly of practical importance, from a commercial point of view, to determine the period of *montée* or ascent of elvers in English and Welsh rivers.

The time of arrival in any particular locality must, at least to some extent, depend upon the distance from the spawning grounds; and it has been observed that it varies from October or November in northern Spain to January in southern France and western Ireland, February and onwards in the West of England, and April in Denmark.

This circumstance, taken in conjunction with the fact that in the northern countries of Europe, owing probably to the low temperature of the water as well as to remoteness from the spawning grounds, the supply is very scanty, suggests the possibility of organised measures for supplying elvers from this country for transplantation to Continental rivers at certain seasons. Indeed, steps to this end have already been taken by experts from Germany, who have procured large numbers of elvers in the Severn for introduction into the Elbe and Weser.

With a view of obtaining more definite information on the subject of the period of arrival of elvers in the different rivers of England and Wales, the Board, in 1907, and again in 1908, issued a circular to all Boards of Conservators asking that arrangements might be made for noting and recording, on forms provided for the purpose, the place and time of the earliest and latest appearance of elvers in their rivers during the year and the period of greatest abundance.

In the result, returns were received from 21 rivers for 1907, and from 27 for the following year. In some cases, however, the information given was meagre and wanting in precision; and in only 11 instances were returns for both years forthcoming from the same river.

The assumed connection between the time of appearance in the different rivers and the geographical position of the rivers in relation to the spawning grounds does not appear to be borne out to any marked extent by these returns.

The subjoined table shows the particulars collected. The rivers are given in their geographical order along the coast, beginning at the north-west, and proceeding southwards, eastwards and northwards to the north-east:—

ASCENT OF ELVERS.

River and Year.	Earliest Appearance.	Latest Appearance.	Period of Greatest Abundance.
Lene : 1907	Apr. 27	June 20	—
Do. : 1908	Apr. 3	May 31	May 18—May 30.
Wyre : 1907	May 6	Aug. 28	—
Doe : 1908	Apr. 10	Sept. 25	May—July 12.
Conway : 1907	Apr. 16	Sept. 13	Aug. 24—Sept. 10.
Glaslyn : 1908	Apr. (end of)	May 27 (about)	May 1—May 22.
Dysyni : 1908	—	Feb. 12	Jan.—Feb.
Dovey : 1908	June 1	June 7	June 3—June 7.
Dulas : 1908	Apr. 7	—	—
Cleddy : 1908	May 18	June 3	May 18—May 23.
Towy : 1908	Apr. 10	May 24	—
Cotthi : 1908	—	—	July 25.
Gwili : 1908	—	—	June 5—June 20.
Ogmore : 1908	May 3	—	—
Rhymney : 1907	Apr. 27	May 25	May 8—May 12.
Usk : 1907	Apr. 25	July 27	End of Apr. and July.
Do. : 1908	May 9	July 30	June 21—June 29.
Wye : 1907	Apr. 2	—	Apr. 14—Apr. 21.
Do. : 1908	Apr. 16	June 14	Apr. 28—May 1.
Severn : 1907	Mar. 14	June 19	Apr. 6—Apr. 22.
Do. : 1908	Feb. 14	June 10	Apr. 6—Apr. 25.
Avon and Yeo (Somerset) : 1907.	Mar. 23	May	Apr.—May.
Brue : 1908	May 1	—	May 1—May 3.
Taw : 1907	Mar. 13	June 13	Mar. 29—Apr. 17.
Do. : 1908	Mar. 20	June 6	Apr. 1—May 31.
Torridge : 1908	Feb. 20	Apr. 17	Mar. 15—Apr. 17.
Camel : 1907	Sept. 12	Sept. 23	Sept. 12—Sept. 23.
Tamar : 1908	July 2	Sept. 9	July—Sept.
Plym : 1908	Apr. 10	Oct. 22	June 10—Sept. 21.
Meavy : 1908	May 27	July 15	June 1—July 14.
Dart : 1907	Mar. 27	Aug. 22	Apr. 13—July 10.
Teign : 1907	Apr. 20	—	—
Axe : 1907	Apr. 1	Aug. 10	Apr.—Aug.
Do. : 1908	Apr. 18	June 1	May 1—May 31.
Avon (Hants) : 1908 ...	May 31	June 15	May—June.

River and Year.	Earliest Appearance.	Latest Appearance.	Period of Greatest Abundance.
Ouse (Sussex) : 1908 ...	May 4	July 3	May 18—May 23.
Cuckmere : 1908 ...	Apr. 16	May 2	—
Stour (Suffolk) : 1907 ...	Apr. 17	July 12	May 17—June 27.
Do. : 1908 ...	Feb. 6	June 5	May 15—June.
Orwell : 1907 ...	May 11	June 29	May 24—June 23.
Do. : 1908 ...	May 7	July 18	May 12—June 16.
Gipping : 1907 ...	May 18	—	—
Welland : 1908 ...	May 15	June 1	May 15—June 1.
Trent : 1907 ...	Mar. 2	June 11	Mar.—May.
Derwent (Tributary of) (Yorks) : 1907 ...	June 11	Oct. 24	—
Eske (Yorks) : 1907 ...	May 24	June 26	—
Do. : 1908 ...	May 11	Aug. 13	June 22.
Tees : 1907 ...	May 17	July 18	May 20—June 27.
Do. : 1908 ...	May 10	June 5	May 16—May 31.
Wear : 1908 ...	Apr. 10	Sept. 1	June—Aug.
Tyne : 1907 ...	Apr. 29	Aug. 28	June and July.
Do. : 1908 ...	May 11	June 17	May 29—June 17.

ACCOUNTS OF BOARDS OF CONSERVATORS.

As will be seen from Appendix III. (p. 32), the actual receipts by Boards of Conservators from salmon licences during the year 1908 was £8,091, or £381 more than in 1907; while trout licences yielded £5,975, or £67 less than in the previous year. The total income of Boards of Conservators from all sources (Appendix II.) was £16,119, or £641 less than in 1907. Adding to these receipts the balance of £6,062 brought forward from the previous year, the total income of the Boards was £22,181. From this, however, has to be deducted a sum of £1,654 representing the adverse balances of 7 Boards, brought forward from 1907, leaving £20,527 as the available funds of all Boards for the year 1908. The total expenditure was £15,816, and, exclusive of investments, the net balance in the hands of all Boards at the end of the year was £4,711.

Apart from licence duties, almost the only source of revenue of Boards of Conservators consists in voluntary contributions. From penalties on convictions they realised only £194. On the other hand the expenditure involved in prosecutions and other law costs amounted to £474, and salaries, wages of water-bailiffs and travelling expenses cost £11,697. In these circumstances it is not surprising to find that only £170 was spent on fishpasses and other works. Insurance against liability for compensation in respect of accidents to *employees* now forms an item in the expenditure of Boards. In the case of 29 Boards the amount of the premium paid is specified in the accounts furnished and the total amounts to £87.

WATER-BAILIFFS.

The total number of water-bailiffs employed in all districts was 773, of whom 618 were permanent and 155 temporary. In addition, a certain number of water-bailiffs' warrants were issued to keepers and others who acted as unpaid water-bailiffs.

Having regard to the area to be watched, it must be recognised that a staff of such proportions is quite inadequate. As will have been gathered, however, from the foregoing remarks on the financial position of the Boards of Conservators, the expenditure under this head was as large as could be afforded.

LOCAL MATTERS.

Taking the districts in geographical order round the coast from the Solway to the Tweed, the following are among the more important of the local matters which have arisen during the year ended the 31st March, 1909, on which action has been taken by way of the issue of a formal certificate or order of the Board, or which have been otherwise dealt with.

For the Eden District, a bye-law has been confirmed making the close season for salmon rods in the River Eden, above Irthing Foot, and in the River Eamont, commence on the 2nd November and terminate on the 1st February. Here, as in the rest of the district, the close season had previously been from the 16th November to the 15th February.

A variation of the scale of licence duties in this district was also sanctioned, the principal effect being to increase the rate for fixed engines for salmon from £5 to £6; and for salmon rods for the season, from £1 1s. to £1 10s. for the whole district, and from 15s. to £1 1s. for that part above Armathwaite Weir. A special rate of £1 1s. for the season for salmon rods used below Botcherby Laue End only is also provided; and, as regards trout, the rate for a net of any description is raised to £1 10s., while the season and week rates for rods are increased to 4s. and 1s. 6d. respectively.

For the Derwent District, a complete new scale of licence duties has been sanctioned. As regards salmon, the rates for fixed engines and draft or seine nets remain unaltered; but for rods, which formerly paid, for the whole district, £1 10s. for the season and £1 for a month and, in any part except the Derwent below Ouse Bridge, 15s. for the season and 10s. for a month, the following rates came into force:—Whole district: Season, £1 10s.; before 15th September, 15s., month, after 14th September, 15s.; above the foot of Bassenthwaite Lake: Season, 10s.; before 14th September, 7s. 6d.; month, after 14th September, 7s. 6d. For trout and char, the new rates are as follows:—Draft or seine nets, £1 10s.; rods, whole district: season, 10s.; above Derwent Bridge, Cockermouth: season, 5s., week, 2s. 6d.; below Derwent Bridge: before 1st July, 5s., week 2s. 6d.

The Lune Board of Conservators submitted for confirmation a bye-law altering the annual close season for salmon in the Lune and its tributaries above the Aqueduct Bridge, at Lancaster, so that it should be from the 12th August to the 15th July following. Objection having been made to this alteration, it was considered necessary to direct a public inquiry into the bye-law. In view, however, of certain negotiations which were proceeding with a view to abolish netting at Skerton Weir the matter was allowed to stand over for a time. Eventually the bye-law was confirmed; but the circumstances of the case are so interesting as to call for some detailed notice.

For many years practically the only net fishing for salmon in private waters in the River Lune was that carried on by the owner of the fishery at Skerton Weir, all the other owners above that place having mutually agreed not to net for salmon. Some two or three years ago the fishery at Skerton Weir came into the possession of Lord Ashton, who was approached on behalf of the other owners with a view to the purchase of the fishing rights and the abolition of netting at the Weir. Lord Ashton received these proposals in a very sympathetic manner, and eventually the fishing rights at the Weir were purchased by subscription by the upper proprietors and others interested, and vested in Trustees, known as the "Skerton Trustees," who hold them in trust under covenant not to net for commercial purposes in any year in which no netting takes place in any other fishery higher up the river, except with the express object of providing funds for the construction of fish passes in other weirs on the Lune.

It so happened, however, that the former owner of the Skerton fishery had an interest in another fishery immediately above. This fishery he had not netted while he held the Skerton fishery, but he declined to be a party to the agreement above referred to, by which the upper proprietors undertook not to net above Skerton. In these circumstances the owner of the fishery in question was likely to reap an undue advantage as a result of the cessation of netting at Skerton, and it was therefore felt not to be unreasonable to sanction the byelaw above mentioned, which reduced to the smallest possible limits the period within which netting would be permitted. Owing to the peculiar wording of the Salmon Acts, it was not possible to impose an absolute prohibition of netting even on those who were desirous of such a prohibition, and although the position undoubtedly involved some interesting considerations, it was felt that not only would substantial justice be done by the approval of the byelaw, but its operation would be in accordance with the principles advocated by the Royal Commission of 1902. Since the approval of the byelaw, the facilities for the passage of fish into the upper waters of the Lune have been greatly increased by the construction in Skerton Weir of a series of six fish-passes on the "diagonal" system, the sites of which were settled by the Superintending Inspector of Fisheries, who also advised certain improvements in the original fish ladder, and designed still another pass to be constructed in the tail run of the now abandoned mill.

All these steps have been carried out as part of a complete scheme for the improvement of the salmon fisheries of the Lune, the latest development of which is to be found in the Lune Fisheries Provisional Order, to be submitted for confirmation by Parliament during the present session.

For the Seiont District, a variation of the scale of licence duties on salmon rods has been sanctioned, reducing the season rate from £1 1s. to 15s., and abolishing the special rates for portions of the district.

In the Dwyfach District, a reduction of the day rate for salmon rod licences from 2s. to 1s. has been sanctioned.

The Board of Conservators of the Towy District submitted for approval a variation of the scale of licence duties in force in their

district, the effect of which would have been to reduce the rate for draft or seine net licences for the whole district from £5 to £4. In support of the proposal, it was alleged, that the area fished by these nets had been considerably reduced by the operation of a bye-law confirmed in 1895. The matter appeared, however, to involve points requiring further investigation. A decision has, therefore, been postponed until a conference can take place between an Inspector of Fisheries and representatives of the Conservators.

In the Wye District plans have been approved of a fish-pass at Abernant Weir, on the River Irfon, constructed by the owner of the Weir.

The Board of Conservators of the Fowey District applied for an Order under the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1907, altering in a part of their district the statutory limitations on the annual close season for salmon nets. It was urged that the Fowey is a very "late" river for salmon, the bulk of the fish running during the present close season, which, from Lostwithiel Bridge downwards, is from the 1st November to the 4th April; and it was desired that the close season for nets should be from the 1st December to the 4th May, with a proviso that in November netting should not extend inside a line from Whitehouse, Fowey, to the Town Quay, Polruan.

The Superintending Inspector of Fisheries subsequently attended a meeting of the Conservators for discussion of the matter, and it was arranged that an experimental catch of salmon should be made in November, in order that the condition of the fish at that time of year might be tested; it being contended that a similar test made some years ago was not conclusive.

Three salmon taken in a seine net at the entrance to Fowey Harbour, on the 25th November, were forwarded to this Board for examination. One of these fish was a male of 80 cms. in length and 4,540 grammes in weight. The weight of the milt was 162 grammes, or 3·5 per cent. of the total. The other two fish were females, one 88 cms. in length and 5,770 grammes in weight, and the other 87 cms. in length and 5,760 grammes in weight. The weights of the ova were, respectively, 981 and 703 grammes, or 17 per cent. and 12 per cent. of the total. The eggs were in an advanced stage of development. These results were communicated to the Board of Conservators, who have the matter under consideration.

On the application of the Board of Conservators of the Exe District, a bye-law has been approved prohibiting the use in fishing for freshwater fish of any mode or instrument of fishing except a rod and line, fixed nets for taking eels and landing nets used as auxiliary to angling with rod and line. At the same time, and as complementary to this, a variation of the licence scale for the district was sanctioned, removing drag nets for trout from the scale.

For the Hampshire Rivers District, bye-laws were confirmed (1) making the annual close season for salmon, eastward of a line drawn north and south through the Needles, from the 1st September to the 14th February, and the close season for rods, in the same area, from the 16th October to the 1st February; (2) making

the close season for trout in the Avon and its tributaries, above Bickton Mill, from the 15th October to the 15th April; (3) regulating the use of nets in the salmon close times; and (4) prohibiting netting near the mouths of Lymington River and the Keyhaven or Avonwater.

A variation of the scale of licence duties on instruments used in fishing for trout in the Avon or its tributaries above Bickton Mill was also sanctioned. The effect was to make the 2s. 6d. and 1s. rod licences available for a month and a week respectively, instead of a week and a day.

For the Coquet District, a bye-law has been confirmed, prohibiting the use of a gaff in connection with a rod and line during the months of February, March, April and October. Previously, the gaff had been prohibited in October only.

Although in the foregoing record, only one case occurs in which plans of a fish-pass were approved, a number of fish-passes, gratings and other works have in point of fact been dealt with, without arriving at the stage of formal certification.

The following list gives, in continuation of similar statements in previous Reports, particulars of a number of dams for which designs for fish passes have been suggested by the Superintending Inspector, during the past year. Of the cases referred to in the previous lists, those in which matters have been further advanced, but which have not yet reached the approval stage, are distinguished by an asterisk:—

Fishery District.	River.	Wm.	Nature of Work.	Plan suggested.	Observations.
Kent, Bels, &c. ...	Kent ...	*Bowling Bridge	Upright; timber ...	Pool pass	Work partly carried out by owner.
		*Queen Head ...	" " ...	" " ...	" " "
Dev	Dev	*Llangollen ...	Upright; timber ...	Pool pass	Plans under consideration of Board of Conservators.
Twily	Twily	*Peak Twily ...	Sloping; masonry ...	Diagonal	Trusses accepted for construction of work.
Uth	Uth	*Bryon (Newton Pool.)	Sloping; rough masonry	Additional pools at foot of pass	Plans submitted by owner.
Twe and Tweidge	Tweidge ...	*Bacon	Sloping; masonry ...	"	Plans under consideration of Board of Conservators and owner.
		Yeo	Bawleigh ...	Diagonal	Plans under consideration of Conservators.
Tame and Nym	Avery ...	Tocka Bridge	Wall built; sloping ...	Pool pass	Under consideration of owner.
		Warrington Park War.	"	"	" " "
Tolga	Boway ...	*Jew's Bridge ...	Sloping; rough rubble	Diagonal	Plans under consideration of owner.
Eas	Eas	*Coring Bridge	Sloping; masonry ...	Pool pass	Under consideration of Conservators.
		*Pym's	" " ...	Diagonal	" " "
Hamphire Rivers	Test ...	*Norsling M.E. ...	Sloping; masonry ...	"	Work completed by owner.
Trent	Don Trent ...	*Telford	" " ...	Pool pass	Plans under consideration.
		Greenhill ...	In course of construction	Diagonal	Plans under consideration of owner.

Fishery District	Reeve	Ward	Nature of Work	Time suggested	Observations
Edin (Tees) ...	Steddenbeck	*Carncliffe ...	Sloping; rough masonry	Pool pass	Plans under consideration.
Croft	Croft	*Polton	Upright; masonry ...	... ..	Work completed by owner.
	"	*Marwick ...	Sloping; rough masonry	Diagonal; also pool pass to connect.	Diagonal constructed; plans for pool pass under con- sideration by owner.

POLLUTION.

The Board of Trade have consulted this Board in respect of a number of schemes involving the discharge of sewage into tidal waters. These cases have been investigated with a view to consider what precautions should be adopted; and every effort has been made to secure in each case the best provision of which the circumstances would allow for the purification of the effluent or for limiting the periods of discharge. The jurisdiction of the Board of Trade in regard to sewerage works on the foreshore is in respect of navigation interests only; but, even in such cases, the representations of this department, made after consultation with the local Fishery Authorities, have often been productive of good results.

FISH POISONING.

Cases are constantly occurring of poisoning of fish attributed to pollution by sewage, mining refuse, noxious manufacturing effluent, sheep-dip or road washings, the last mentioned being in late years a more and more frequent cause of complaint, owing to the increasing use of dust-laying substances of a poisonous character, which in wet weather get washed into the streams.

The primary difficulty usually is to determine with accuracy the cause of the mischief, and from time to time during the past year the assistance of the Board was invoked in connection with such cases, as well by private individuals as by Boards of Conservators; dead fish, with samples of the water in which they had been found, being forwarded for examination.

The Board's technical officers are always ready, so far as their other duties permit, to advise upon cases of this nature and to examine and report upon fish suspected to have been poisoned; but cases requiring minute bacteriological and analytical examination, necessitating a reference to the Government Laboratory, can be undertaken only at the request of a Board of Conservators.

So many instances have occurred, however, in which fish have arrived in a condition which rendered useful examination impossible, and where the water samples have been inadequate for the purpose in view, or have not been taken intelligently, that it seems desirable to give some hints for the guidance of the persons whom Boards of Conservators may employ in this connection.

In the first place, the fish suspected to have been poisoned should be sent, if possible, fresh; as the next best alternative, they should be packed in ice; and, if neither of these methods is practicable, they may be preserved in formalin, either entirely immersed in a 4 per cent. solution, or wrapped, each specimen separately, in a piece of linen soaked in a 10 per cent. solution. In case of complete immersion, the ventral cavity should in each case be cut open before the fish is placed in the liquid. The linen wrapping is only suitable where examination can be promptly made or where the specimens can speedily be transferred to a liquid solution. A careful note should in all cases be made of the general condition of the fish when taken from the water, and particularly of their gills and eyes; as the external appearance may often afford an indication of the cause of death.

In the second place, any samples of water sent—and it is rarely any use to examine the fish alone—should be taken under the following conditions. The samples should consist of about one Winchester quart each. One should be of the water in which the dead or dying fish were found; one of the actual discharge into the stream which is suspected of being the cause of the mischief, and one of the water sufficiently far above such outfall to be unaffected thereby, unless it can be shown that the stream above the outfall is pure.

It is also of importance, as narrowing the scope of the investigation, that the nature of the suspected poison should be indicated.

In all cases, packages and bottles should be clearly labelled with a statement of their contents, where taken, by whom sent, and the date; and their dispatch, with full particulars, should be advised by letter.

LEGAL DECISION: CLOSING OF SLUICES.

A case of some importance (*Fleming v. Mugford*) turning upon the construction of Section 26 of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, as amended by Section 53 of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1873, came before the King's Bench Division on the 23rd March, 1909, on appeal from a conviction by the Justices of Totnes.

The section, as amended, provides that "the sluices, if any, for drawing off the water which would otherwise flow over any dam shall be kept shut on Sundays and at all times when the water is not required for milling purposes, in such manner as to cause such water to flow through the fish pass, if any, or over the dam"; with the proviso that "this section shall not preclude any person from opening a sluice for the purpose of letting off water in cases of flood, or for milling purposes, or when necessary for the purposes of navigation, or for cleaning or repairing any dam or mill or the appurtenances thereof."

The defendant, who was owner of Totnes Mill, on the Dart, was summoned for having on two Sundays not kept shut certain sluices across the intake of the mill leat through which the water was drawn off, which would otherwise have flowed over the Totnes Weir or through the fish pass attached thereto. Being convicted and fined, he entered an appeal.

The Magistrates found as facts that for many years the chief purpose of the mill leat has been the conveyance of water to the appellant's mill; that in 1894 a flood caused considerable damage to the sides of the mill leat and to property adjoining; and that shortly afterwards the appellant caused to be constructed the works now in question which consist of three fenders each five feet wide between strong retaining walls, and which fenders are so constructed that the same can be readily raised or lowered as desired. They also found that the effect of closing down the fenders is that the whole flow of the River Dart passes through the fish-pass or over the dam, and that the effect of raising any of the fenders is that some portion of the water which would otherwise pass through the fish-pass is drawn off into the mill leat.

On the part of the appellant it was contended that the mill leat is a natural water-course; that the works in question were con-

structed, not for the purpose of drawing off water, but to prevent flooding; and that, therefore, the fender was not a "sluice for drawing off water," within the meaning of Section 26 of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861.

After argument, the Court, consisting of the Lord Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Darling and Mr. Justice Jelf, dismissed the appeal, with costs.

The Lord Chief Justice, in the course of his judgment, said that it seemed to him that the argument confused the purpose and the result. The section said nothing about purpose; it said a great deal about result. Looking at the structure as it exists at the time, if the effect of keeping a door open will be that water which would otherwise go over the dam or down the fish-pass will be diverted, it is necessary to keep that shut on Sundays. His Lordship added that, taking the structure to have been erected, as contended, in order to dam the water out of the cut in times of flood, it was still a structure, which, if left open on a Sunday, allowed the water which would otherwise flow over the dam to pass down instead of going over the dam or through the fish-pass; and that, therefore, the Magistrates were justified in finding that this was a sluice, as defined by the section.

Mr. Justice Darling and Mr. Justice Jelf concurred, the former saying that, strictly speaking, the words, "for drawing off water," in the section, seemed unnecessary.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

During the year, as usual, a large number of Private Bills and Provisional Orders pending before Parliament, relating to water supply, sewage disposal, electric lighting, railways, harbours, canals, and other navigation works, were examined with a view to obtain adequate provision for protecting the interests of the fisheries. In several cases clauses have been inserted or other amendments made providing for the construction of fish-passes or gratings, for the supply of compensation water, and otherwise, in the fishery interest.

APPENDICES.

In the Appendices will be found, among other information, the annual returns of Boards of Conservators, with an abstract of their accounts; tables showing the annual and weekly close seasons for salmon, the period during which it is lawful to use a gaff in connection with a rod and line, and the annual close season for trout and char; together with an abstract of the byelaws for the regulation of netting, &c., both for salmon and freshwater fish.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER E. ARCHER.

APPENDIX I.

—

RETURNS MADE BY BOARDS OF CONSERVATORS
IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING
REQUISITION :—

—

- 1.—Was the take of salmon and migratory trout in 1908 above, about or below the average : (a.) In tidal waters. (b.) In fresh waters. (c.) Generally?
- 2.—Can you give an estimate of the number and gross weight of salmon and migratory trout caught in 1908 : (a.) With net? (b.) With rod?
- 3.—What is your report for the year 1908 on the fisheries (if any) for—(a.) trout; (b.) char; (c.) grayling; (d.) eels; (e.) other freshwater fish?
- 4.—Did "salmon disease" appear in 1908? If so, state full particulars.
- 5.—State the number of water bailiffs employed in your District in 1908 : (a.) paid out of the funds of your Board; (b.) not so paid.
- 6.—Give particulars of any dams destroyed (wholly or in part) or abandoned in 1908; and of any new dams built, or old dams rebuilt after having been destroyed or taken down to the extent of half their length; and of any dams altered. What steps have been taken to secure the construction of fish-passes in any of the above-mentioned cases?
- 7.—Were any other fish-passes built or altered in 1908? If so, give full particulars.
- 8.—Are the approved fish-passes in good condition? Give particulars with respect to any requiring repairs.
- 9.—What action, if any, has been taken, either by new fisheries being started, old fisheries not being used, or otherwise, whereby the ascent of fish has been influenced?
- 10.—Were any channels for the supply of waterworks or canals opened in 1908? If so, have gratings been attached thereto?
- 11.—Were any other gratings or similar devices erected in 1908? If so, give particulars.
- 12.—Were any new mines or factories discharging, or likely to discharge, substances deleterious to fish, opened in 1908; or was there otherwise any additional discharge of poisonous or deleterious matter into your rivers?
- 13.—What steps were taken in 1908 to prevent pollution from mines and factories, or sewage from towns, from entering your rivers? Have such steps proved successful?
- 14.—Make a return of all licences issued in 1908.
- 15.—Make a return of all prosecutions instituted by your Board under the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Acts in 1908.
- 16.—Is there any other point to which you wish to draw attention?
- 17.—What dates and places are fixed for meetings of the Board of Conservators in the ensuing year?
- 18.—What are the names and addresses of the chairman and clerk of your Fishery Board?

N.B.—In the arrangement of the Returns the Districts are taken in their order on the line of coast, beginning at the north-west.

Answers consisting of a simple negative are omitted.

A Summary only of the answers to question 15 is included.

The answers to question 18 are tabulated in Appendix IV.

EDEN DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) Above the average.

2.—(b.) 523 salmon, weighing 8,868 lbs.

3.—(a.) Average season.

4.—Scarcely at all.

5.—(a.) 7 permanent, 1 temporary. Total, 8.

13.—The Corporation of Carlisle completed their bacteria bed system for the disposal of the town sewage in the spring of 1908, and removed it from the river in the month of June. It seems to be completely successful.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

					£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
Coop (Private Waters)	3	at	5	0	0	=	15	0	0
Coracle net (Private Waters)	2	"	2	5	0	=	4	10	0
Hang or drift net (Private Waters)	3	"	4	0	0	=	12	0	0
Draft or seine net (Private Waters)	4	"	5	0	0	=	20	0	0
Ditto (Private Waters)	2	"	4	0	0	=	8	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters)	2	"	5	0	0	=	10	0	0
Haaf, heave, or lave net (Public Waters)	83	"	1	10	0	=	124	10	0
Rod : for the season	108	"	1	1	0	=	113	8	0
" (above Armathwaite)	29	"	0	15	0	=	21	15	0
" (in Waver, Wampool, and Irthing)	34	"	0	7	6	=	12	15	0
" (in Duke of Devonshire's Socage water)	16	"	0	5	0	=	4	0	0
" for a week	76	"	0	5	0	=	19	0	0
" for a day	29	"	0	2	6	=	3	12	6
General Licences	2					=	37	0	0
Total							405	10	6

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

					£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		
Shoulder net	3	at	0	15	0	=	2	5	0
Rod : for the season	880	"	0	3	6	=	154	0	0
" for a week	650	"	0	1	0	=	32	10	0
Total	188	15	0		

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Gaffing salmon, 1; fishing for trout without licence, 3; using net without licence, 4; using drift net in Solway, 2; possession of unclean salmon, 3; possession of gaff, 2.

SECOND OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Shackle-netting, 1; using snatch, 1.

THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Possession of unclean salmon, 2; using gaff, 1; shackle-netting, 4.

Acquittals.—Shackle-netting, 2.

17.—Second Saturday in January, April, July and October at the Courts, Carlisle.

DERWENT DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) Below the average.

3.—(a.) Poor.

4.—A small amount of salmon disease, but not as much as is reported in the papers.

5.—(a.) 3 permanent; 1 temporary. (b.) 2 permanent. Total, 6.

8.—The two fish passes at (1) Castle Bain and (2) Fitz Dam, Cockermouth, are in need of alteration and steps are about to be taken to remedy the two dams in question.

9.—The Salmon Hall Fishery Syndicate have not visited the lower reaches, which undoubtedly has influenced the ascent of the fish to the upper reaches.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

				£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Coop (Private Waters)	1	at	12	0	0	=	12	0	0	
Draft or seine net (Private Waters) ...	1	"	5	0	0	=	5	0	0	
Rod : for the season	96	"	1	10	0	=	144	0	0	
" for a month	16	"	1	0	0	=	16	0	0	
" for a fortnight	15	"	0	15	0	=	11	5	0	
" for a week	13	"	0	10	0	=	6	10	0	
General Licences	1	"				=	18	0	0	
Total							212	15	0	

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

				£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Draft net	1	at	1	10	0	=	1	10	0	
Rod : for the season	238	"	0	5	0	=	59	10	0	
" for a month	211	"	0	2	6	=	26	7	6	
" for a week	56	"	0	1	0	=	2	16	0	
Total							90	3	6	

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Killing unseasonable salmon, 1; possession of unseasonable salmon, 1; possession of click hook, 8; taking salmon without licence, 1; using net, 6.

Withdrawn.—Possession of click hook, 1.

Acquittals.—Possession of click hook, 1.

17.—Last Tuesday in January, April, July, and October. Watchdog Meetings when required by Clerk. Held at Cockermouth.

WEST CUMBERLAND DISTRICT.

1.—(a.) Above the average. (b.) Below.

3.—(a.) Good.

4. The head bailiff reports that he has not seen any and presumably has not heard of any.

5.—(a.) 2 permanent, 1 temporary. Total, 3. Several gamekeepers and wa fisheries employes also act as water-bailiffs.

8.—Yes.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

				£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Eak Garth (Private Waters)	1	at	5	0	0	=	5	0	0	
Eben and Calder Garths (Private Waters) ...	2	"	5	0	0	=	10	0	0	
Draft or seine net (Private Waters) ...	1	"	5	0	0	=	5	0	0	
Ditto (Public Waters)	1	"	5	0	0	=	5	0	0	
Rod : for the season	196	"	0	10	6	=	102	18	0	
" for a week	28	"	0	5	0	=	7	0	0	
" for a day	24	"	0	2	0	=	2	8	0	
Total							137	6	0	

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

				£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season	227	at	0	2	6	=	28	7	6	
" for a week	97	"	0	1	0	=	4	17	0	
Total							33	4	6	

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Using a double-armoured net for taking salmon, 2.

17.—On or about the last Thursday in February, May, August and November, in the Union Hall, Whitehaven.

KENT DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) About the average.

3.—(a.) Good, except in Windermere Lake. (b.) Good, but not up to previous year.

4.—Yes, in the River Kent it was bad but the late floods have now cleared all diseased fish out.

5.—(a.) 4 permanent; 2 temporary. (b.) 7 permanent. Total, 13.

8.—The passes in Cowan Head and Bowston Weirs are not in a satisfactory condition.

13.—The sewage works of the Kendal Corporation on the Kent have been kept under close observation and representations made to the Corporation as in previous years, and the Corporation are continuing their efforts to improve their sewage system so as to relieve the River from pollution as far as possible.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Draft or seine net (Public Waters) ...	...	8 at	5	0	0	=	40	0	0
Rod : for the season ...	...	234 "	0	10	0	=	117	0	0
" for a week ...	...	16 "	0	5	0	=	4	0	0
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	161	0	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Plumb line for char ...	...	42 at	0	7	6	=	15	15	0
Draft net ...	...	2 "	1	13	4	=	3	6	8
Rod : for the season (whole district) ...	...	375 "	0	5	0	=	93	15	0
" " (whole district except Windermere) ...	...	1,300 "	0	2	6	=	162	10	0
" for a week ...	...	17 "	0	2	6	=	2	2	6
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	277	9	2

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Using illegal net, 4; using illegal instrument, 2; using first engine, 1; spearing salmon, 2; assaulting bailiff, 1.

Withdrawn on payment of costs.—Using fixed engine, 3.

17.—1909 : March 4th, at Ulverston, June 9th, at Bowness, October 6th, at Bowness; 1910 : January 6th, at Ulverston.

LUNE DISTRICT.

1.—(a.) Above the average for the last few years. (b.) About the same.

3.—(a.) The same as last year a large number of trout having been caught with rod and line.

5.—(a.) 4 permanent, 2 temporary. Total, 6.

7.—Two diagonals have been erected in Dalton's Dam Weir at Lancaster and application has been made by the Board to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries for their Certificate of approval.

9.—The fishery at Skerton which has always played an important part in the history of the Lune has been purchased by the Upper Proprietors of the Lune and the fishery has been conveyed to Trustees on behalf of the public interests and the interests of fishing in the Lune as a whole. There will in future be no netting for salmon at Skerton on commercial lines except when necessary for the improvement of the Fisheries.

14 :—

FOR SALMON

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Cockersand Abbey Bank (Private Waters)	1 at	10	0	0	=	10	0	0
Heave net (Public Waters)	14 "	3	0	0	=	42	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters)	4 "	1	10	0	=	6	0	0
Draft net (Public Waters)	4 "	6	0	0	=	24	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters)	9 "	5	0	0	=	45	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters)	1 "	2	0	0	=	2	0	0
Rod : for the season	46 "	1	0	0	=	46	0	0
" " (Lune, above Kirkby								
Lonsdale Bridge)	52 "	0	10	0	=	26	0	0
" " (Wyre)	146 "	0	5	0	=	36	10	0
" " (Keer)	82 "	0	5	0	=	20	10	0
General Licences	14				=	30	15	0
Total						288	15	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season	1,264 at	0	2	6	=	158	0	0

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Possession of gaff, 2 ; possession of unseasonable fish, 1 ; using fish roe, 1 ; using unlicensed instrument for salmon, 4.

Withdrawn.—Using unlicensed instrument for salmon, 1.

Acquittals.—Aiding and abetting in using unlicensed instrument, 2 ; taking unseasonable salmon, 4 ; aiding and abetting in taking unseasonable salmon, 1.

THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Using unlicensed instrument for salmon, 2.

17.—13th March, 1909, at Lancaster ; 15th July, 1909, at Kirkby Lonsdale ; 6th November, 1909, at Lancaster ; 15th January, 1910, at Lancaster.

RIBBLE DISTRICT.

1.—(a.) and (c.) About the average. (b.) Below the average.

3.—(a.) Good. (b.) Fair number taken.

4.—Not more than is usual.

5.—(a.) 4 permanent. A number of keepers hold certificates.

8.—Some repairs are required and the advice of the Fisheries Inspector will be asked for.

13.—The matters are now reported to the Ribble Joint Committee or West Riding Rivers Board according to district.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Draft or seine net (Public Waters)	13 at	5	0	0	=	65	0	0
Rod : for the season	177 "	1	0	0	=	177	0	0
" for a month	15 "	0	10	0	=	7	10	0
General Licences	7				=	21	0	0
Total						270	10	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season	521 at	0	5	0	=	130	5	0
" for a week	53 "	0	2	6	=	6	12	6
" for a day	193 "	0	1	0	=	9	13	0
Total						146	10	6

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing for trout by means other than a properly licensed instrument, 2.

17.—Quarterly.

DEE DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) Above the average.

5.—(a.) 3 permanent ; 2 temporary. (b.) 1 permanent. Total, 6.

6.—A Committee has been appointed to consider the reconstruction of the fish pass over Llangollen Weir and plans have been prepared and approved of by the Fishery Board.

8.—The bottom pool in the fish pass over Pentrefellyn Weir is practically washed away but this pass has not been approved.

13.—A sub-committee is appointed to deal with the question of pollution and are carefully watching all sources of pollution.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Coracle net (Private Waters)	...	...	4	at	2 5 0	=	9	0	0
Draft net (Public Waters)	...	...	55	"	5 0 0	=	275	0	0
Trammel net (Public Waters)	...	...	5	"	15 0 0	=	75	0	0
Rod : for the season...	...	...	93	"	1 0 0	=	93	0	0
" for a week	...	...	11	"	0 10 0	=	5	10	0
" for a day...	...	...	9	"	0 5 0	=	2	5	0
General Licences	...	...	2		...	=	6	0	0
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	465	15	0

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Using illegal mesh, 10 ; attempting to take salmon in tail race of mill, 1 ; fishing without licence, 3 ; attempting to snatch salmon, 1 ; not having boat numbered, 2 ; possession of unseasonable salmon, 1.

Withdrawn.—Shooting draft net within 100 yards of another, 1.

Acquitted.—Shooting draft net within 100 yards of another, 1.

SECOND OFFENCE.

Conviction.—Attempting to take salmon in tail race of mill, 1.

17.—First Saturdays in April, July, October and February, Town Hall, Chester.

ELWY AND CLWYD DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) Average.

2.—(a.) 670 salmon, (b.) 250 salmon. Total, 920 salmon.

3.—(a.) Average.

5.—(a.) 3 permanent. (b.) 2 permanent. Total, 5.

8.—Fish-pass in weir near Llanfairtalhaiarn requires renewal.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Draft or seine net (Public Waters)	...	...	6	at	3.10 0	=	21	0	0
Rod : for the season	...	...	85	"	1 0 0	=	85	0	0
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	106	0	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season	...	...	318	at	0 4 6	=	70	8	6
" for a week	...	...	274	"	0 2 0	=	27	8	0
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	97	16	6

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Disturbing spawning salmon, 2 ; stoning salmon, 2 ; aiding in stoning salmon, 1 ; possession of gaff, 1 ; gaffing salmon, 2 ; aiding and abetting salmon poaching, 3.

17.—St. Asaph when necessary.

CONWAY DISTRICT.

- 1.—(a.) About the average. (b.) and (c.) Below the average.
 2.—(b.) 59 salmon, weighing 398½ lbs.; 151 migratory trout, weighing 302 lbs.
 Total, 210 fish, weighing 700½ lbs.
 3.—(a.) Very good in the early months.
 4.—No disease and no dead fish seen by bailiffs.
 5.—(a.) 2 permanent.
 12.—A quantity of trout were killed in May last by certain poisonous matter being allowed to flow into the River Llugwy from mines above. Steps have been taken to guard against a recurrence of the mischief.

14:—

FOR SALMON.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Fishing-weir at Llandrillo yn Rhos. (Private Waters)	1 at	5	0	0	=	5	0	0
Ditto. Caerhun (Private Waters)...	1 "	5	0	0	=	5	0	0
Basket or Cruive at Tanrallt, Bettws y Oced (Private Waters)	1 "	3	0	0	=	3	0	0
Draft or seine net (Public Waters)	6 "	5	0	0	=	30	0	0
Rod : for the season	19 "	1	0	0	=	19	0	0
" for a month	6 "	0	10	0	=	3	0	0
" for a week	46 "	0	3	0	=	6	18	0
" for a day	175 "	0	1	0	=	8	15	0
Total						80	13	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season	689 at	0	2	0	=	68	18	0
" for a day	316 "	0	0	6	=	7	18	0
Total						76	16	0

15:—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing for trout without licence, 2.

Withdrawn.—Aiding and abetting in using unlicensed instrument, 2.

Acquittal.—Using unlicensed instrument for salmon, 1.

16.—As usual, the netters refuse to give any returns. The small take of salmon is partly accounted for by the scarcity of water in June, July, August and October.

17.—Not yet fixed.

SEIONT DISTRICT.

- 1.—(a.) Considerable improvement. (b.) Marked improvement. (c.) Improvement in all directions.
 2.—(a.) 274 salmon, weighing 1,632½ lbs.
 3.—(a.) Above the average. (b.) Very poor; below average considerably.
 4.—One in March and two in September, in the River Gwyrfa.
 Several salmon (epent fish) were found dead in the Seiont at the end of the year and the beginning of 1909. It was at first thought that they had been killed by pollution, but examination by Professor White, North Wales University College, Bangor, showed this was not the case, but he was unable to say what was the cause of death, unless it was from exhaustion after spawning.
 5.—(a.) 4 permanent; 2 temporary. (b.) 1 permanent. Total, 7.
 8.—Yes.
 11.—No. Considerable difficulty has arisen from time to time as to the fixing and unfixing and cleaning of gratings, by reason of complaints having been sent in by the occupiers of mills, &c., at the lower part of the Seiont River.
 12.—Reports have come from time to time, but we have been unable to substantiate these up to now.

13.—In the Drwsycoed Brook, which runs past the copper mines, settling tanks have been made which appear to have minimised pollution.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Hang or drift net (Public Waters)	5 at	5	0	0	=	25	0	0
Rod : for the season	20 "	1	1	0	=	21	0	0
" " (River Llyfni only)	5 "	0	10	6	=	2	12	6
" " (" Cefni ")	3 "	0	10	6	=	1	11	6
" for a month	3 "	0	10	6	=	1	11	6
" for a week	3 "	0	5	0	=	0	15	0
" for a day	7 "	0	2	6	=	0	17	6
General Licences	1				=	1	1	0
Total						54	9	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season	558 at	0	5	0	=	139	10	0
" for a week	78 "	0	2	6	=	9	15	0
" for a day	221 "	0	1	0	=	11	1	0
General Licences	1				=	1	1	0
Total						161	7	0

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing in close season, 9 ; fishing for salmon without licence, 1 ; angling in private water, 1.

17.—March, June, September, and December, at the Sportsman Hotel, Carnarvon.

DWYFACH DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) Above the average.

3.—(a.) Improving considerably in size and number.

5.—(a.) 2 permanent.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Draft or seine net (Public Waters)	3 at	5	0	0	=	15	0	0
Rod : for the season	1 "	1	1	0	=	1	1	0
" for a month	1 "	0	10	0	=	0	10	0
" for a week	3 "	0	5	0	=	0	15	0
" for a day	6 "	0	2	0	=	0	12	0
Total						17	18	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season	180 at	0	7	0	=	63	0	0
" for a month	32 "	0	5	0	=	8	0	0
" for a week	371 "	0	2	0	=	37	2	0
Total						108	2	0

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Conviction.—Netting for salmon without a licence, 1.

SECOND OFFENCE.

Conviction.—Netting for salmon without a licence, 1.

17.—Quarterly in February, May, August, and November. George Hotel, Criccieth.

DOVEY DISTRICT.

- 1.—(a.) Below the average. (b.) Above. (c.) Excellent season for anglers.
 3.—(a.) Plentiful throughout the district.
 4.—In December a few fish were seen in the Dovey with marks of disease, but they were not badly marked. After a spate these fish disappeared.
 5.—(a.) 5 permanent, 4 temporary. (b.) 13 permanent. Total, 22.
 13.—A piece of land of 2 or 3 acres has been acquired by the Glasbir Copper Mines, Limited, near Dolgelly, for the construction of catch pits for the effluent from the mines, and the work has been commenced.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Goryd on the Dulac at Ragsairgeillig, belonging to Lord Herbert Vane Tempest ...	1 at	10	0	0	=	10	0	0
Draft or seine net (Private Waters) ...	1 "	5	0	0	=	5	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters) ...	4 "	5	0	0	=	20	0	0
Rod : for the season ...	94 "	1	0	0	=	94	0	0
" for a month ...	66 "	0	10	0	=	33	0	0
" for a week ...	46 "	0	5	0	=	11	10	0
" for a day ...	740 "	0	1	0	=	37	0	0
General Licences ...	1				=	6	13	4
Total ...						217	3	4

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season ...	2,389 at	0	1	0	=	119	9	0

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

- Convictions.*—Killing salmon in close season, 4; possession of illegal instruments, 2; using illegal instruments, 2; using illegal mesh, 3; illegal netting, 3.
Dismissed on payment of costs.—Using snatch, 2.
Acquittal.—Using snatch for salmon, 1.

17.—The third Thursday in January, April, July, and October, at Barmouth.

AYRON DISTRICT.

- 1.—(a.) Above the average with nets. (b.) Above the average with rods.
 3.—(a.) Very good.
 5.—(a.) 2 (1 for about 9 months and 1 occasionally at night).
 8.—Yes.
 10.—None required.
 11.—Yes, one at the end of a mill race.
 12.—No.
 13.—None required.
 14 :—

FOR SALMON.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Goryd (Public Waters) ...	1 at	1	0	0	=	1	0	0
Pole net (Public Waters) ...	1 "	3	0	0	=	3	0	0
Rod : for the season ...	23 "	0	10	0	=	11	10	0
" for a month ...	9 "	0	5	0	=	2	5	0
Total ...						17	15	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season ...	114 at	0	2	6	=	14	5	0
" for a month ...	155 "	0	1	0	=	7	15	0
Total ...						22	0	0

15.—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing without licence, 1; fishing in close season and without licence, 1.

17.—4 times a year—not on any fixed date—at Aberayron.

TEIFY DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) Above the average.

2.—(a.) 31,180 lbs. salmon. (b.) 166 salmon, weighing 2,490 lbs.

3.—(a.) and (c.) Above the average. (d.) and (e.) About the average.

4.—Yes. 25 dead salmon were found by the water bailiffs, all cock fish, with the exception of 2 hens, most of them covered with blisters.

5.—(a.) 5 permanent, 1 temporary. Total, 6.

8.—Reported in good condition.

11.—Yes. A new grating has been erected at Alltycafau Woollen Factory on the Teify.

13.—None; excepting the taking of samples of water in one or two places in order to guard against the same.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

					£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Coracle net (Public Waters)	21	at	2	5	0	=	47	5	0
Draft or seine net (Public Waters)	12	"	5	0	0	=	60	0	0
Rod : for the season	61	"	1	0	0	=	61	0	0
" for a month	72	"	0	10	6	=	37	16	0
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	206	1	0	

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

Rod : for the season	1,361	0	2	6	=	170	2	6
15								

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing for salmon without licence, 3; fishing for trout without licence, 4; fishing in close season, 1; aiding and abetting in poisoning water, 1.

Acquittals.—Assaulting bailiff, 1; using illegal mesh, 2.

THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENCE.

Conviction.—Poisoning water, 1.

16.—Yes. The periodical point of the Ponttweelly Fish Pass. I take it that there is still no certificate issued by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, in relation thereto.

17.—Fridays March 19th and September 17th at the Porth Hotel, Llandyssul, and June 18th and December 17th at the Salutation Hotel, Newcastle Emlyn.

CLEDDY DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) Above the average.

3.—(a.) Generally good season but fish very small. (d.) Very abundant, but practically no fishing for them.

5.—(a.) 1 permanent, 1 temporary. Total, 2.

8.—Yes.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

FOR SALMON.											
				£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Coracle net (Public Waters)	2	at	1	0	0	=	2	0	0
Draft or seine net (Public Waters)	4	"	3	0	0	=	12	0	0
Rod : for the season	14	"	0	10	6	=	7	7	0
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	7	0	

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

FOR FISH AND CHAM.										£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod :	for the season	...	...	...	315	at	0	3	6	=	55	2	6
"	for a week	...	...	...	6	"	0	2	6	=	0	15	0
"	for a day	...	...	...	18	"	0	1	0	=	0	18	0
Total														56	15	6

15:—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing for trout without licence, 2.

17.—Held when required at Shire Hall, Haverfordwest.

TOWY DISTRICT.

1.—(a.) and (c.) Above the average. (b.) About the average.

3.—(a.) Good. (d.) Average.

5.—(a.) 6 permanent, 2 temporary. (b.) 4 permanent. Total, 12.

6.—The Weir at the upper end of Carmarthen Tinworks Leet is being washed away but the fish-pass is undamaged and there is plenty of water passing over it.

8.—Yes.

13.—Three samples of water were taken and analyzed and analyst's certificates forwarded to the County Council. The waters were not sufficiently polluted for proceedings to be taken.

14:—

FOR SALMON.

FOR SALMON.										£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Coracle net (Private and Public Waters)	...	5	at	2	2	0	=	10	10	0					
Ditto (Public Waters)	...	27	"	2	2	0	=	56	14	0					
Draft or seine net (Public Waters)	...	14	"	5	0	0	=	70	0	0					
Ditto (Public Waters)	...	13	"	0	12	6	=	8	2	6					
Lamp net (Public Waters)	...	1	"	1	0	0	=	1	0	0					
Wade net (Public Waters)	...	1	"	1	0	0	=	1	0	0					
Ditto (Public Waters)	...	4	"	0	10	0	=	2	0	0					
Ditto (Public Waters)	...	25	"	0	5	0	=	6	5	0					
Rod : for the season	...	183	"	1	1	0	=	192	3	0					
General Licences	...	2	"	...	...	...	=	6	6	0					
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	354	0	6					

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

FOR TROUT AND CHARR.												
				£	s.	d.	=	£	s.	d.		
Rod :	for the season	3,099	at	0	2	6		387	7	6

15:—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing for salmon in close season, 2; fishing for trout in close season, 4; killing salmon in close season, 1; snaring salmon, 2; possession of gaff, 3; fishing without licence, 4.

THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENCE.

Conviction.—Killing salmon in close season, 1.

17.—Last Friday in January and the third Wednesdays in April, July and October, at the Shire Hall, Carmarthen, at 12.45 p.m.

OGMORE DISTRICT.

1.—(c.) About the average.

3.—(a.) Very good. (c.) Scarce. (d.) Numerous.

5.—(a.) 4 permanent; partially so paid.

8.—Yes.

12.—There may be some small collieries but none of any magnitude.

13.—Practically nothing.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season ...	...	...	9	at	0 10 6	=	4	14	6

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season ...	...	...	224	at	0 2 0	=	22	8	0

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Groping for trout, 4.

17.—No fixed dates or places.

TAFF AND ELY DISTRICT.

3.—(a.) Very fair season—much improved owing to the restocking. (c.) A moderate roach fishing season.

5.—(a.) 1 permanent. (b.) 5 permanent. Total, 6.

12.—The River Taff is still much polluted.

14 :—

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season ...	...	...	319	at	0 2 6	=	39	17	6

17.—First Saturday in February, 17, Church Street, Cardiff.

RHYMNEY DISTRICT.

1.—The river has been spoilt by pollution ; but the Chairman took out a salmon net licence as an experiment.

3.—(a.) About the average.

5.—(a.) 1 temporary. (b.) 6 permanent. Total, 7.

8.—There are no approved fish passes. The fish passes on the Roath Brook are in good order.

12.—No new mines or factories were opened. The coal dust from the Collieries remains about the same and there is still considerable pollution by acid and sewage.

13.—The Water Bailiff made periodical visits to the sources of pollution and in consequence of his reports the Collieries and Works Owners and District Councils have been pressed to deal with the pollution. As regards sewage pollution there appears to be an effort to deal more effectively with the pollution as several of the District Councils are extending their sewage disposal works.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Draft or seine net (Private Waters)...	...	1	at	3 0 0	=	3	0	0	

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season ...	...	...	381	at	0 1 0	=	19	1	0

17.—The meetings are held at Newport. There are no fixed dates.

USK AND EBBW DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) Below the average.

2.—(b.) 724 salmon, weighing 7,742 lbs.

3.—(a.) Very good ; above the average. (d.) Rather scarce. (e.) Dace are rather on the increase.

4.—No disease was seen in the Lower Waters, but in the Upper Waters it was bad in January ; after then very little disease was noticed.

5.—(a.) 11 permanent ; 2 temporary. (b.) 20 permanent. Total, 33.

6.—The Millbrook Weir on the Groyney Brook was damaged by floods, and repaired by the owner, and it is understood that the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries are now in negotiation with the owner with reference to the fish pass, which badly requires to be repaired.

7.—No. The proposed fish passes at Crickhowell Bridge Weir and the Tarral Bridge Weir (both bridges belong to the County of Brecon Authorities) are it is understood still under consideration.

8.—Yes, except the Millbrook (Groyney) Weir which has not yet been put into proper order; but salmon travel up and down.

13.—The various works and collieries which at present pollute the Avon Llywd and the Ebbw (the two main sources of pollution of the Usk) have been periodically visited and reported upon by one of the water bailiffs during the year, and in consequence of pressure being brought to bear upon the owners (and probably of the latter's knowledge of the Board's powers under the new Act) there has at last been a decided improvement in the attitude of such owners towards reducing the pollution, as some of them are erecting, and others have promised to erect, copperas and other plant to deal with it. With reference to the pollution by sewage from the various towns on these two rivers, as regards the Ebbw, now that the Western Valleys Trunk Sewer (which will discharge direct into the Bristol Channel) constructed under the powers of the Western Valleys (Mon.) Sewerage Board Act is in operation (it was formally opened a fortnight ago) it ought to very materially lessen this pollution, as most of the towns which formerly polluted the Ebbw, will now discharge into this sewer. As regards the Avon Llywd, there is no abatement of the sewage pollution, but some of the Local Authorities are stated to have schemes before them at the present time for dealing with their sewage.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

FOR SALMON.									
			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Putts (Private Waters)	...	...	236	at	0 2 6	=	29	10	0
Putchers or Butts (Private Waters)	...	...	3,350	"	3 0 0	per 100	=	100	10 0
Stop or compass net (Private Waters)	...	...	5	"	7 10 0		=	37	10 0
Beating net (Private Waters)	...	...	1	"	20 0 0		=	20	0 0
Rod : for the season	...	...	101	"	1 10 0		=	151	10 0
" for a fortnight	...	...	79	"	0 10 0		=	39	10 0
Total	...	...	...	...	...			378	10 0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

FOR TROUT AND CHARR.													
						£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Night Line	2 at	0	5	0	=	0	10	0
Rod : for the season	1,529 "	0	2	6	=	191	2	6
Total						...	...	...	...		191	12	6

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Taking unseasonable trout, 3; taking salmon with unlicensed instrument, 1; taking trout with unlicensed instrument, 4; fishing for trout without licence, 1; possession of unseasonable salmon, 1; possession of unseasonable trout, 2; fishing for trout in close season, 1; using explosives, 3; possession of gaff, 4; aiding and abetting in possession of gaff, 1.

Acquittal.—Aiding and abetting in possession of gaff, 1.

SECOND OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Using net without licence, 2; possession of gaff, 1.

THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Taking unseasonable trout, 1; taking salmon with unlicensed instrument, 2; using illegal net, 1; using net without licence, 1; possession of unclean salmon, 1; aiding and abetting in possession of unclean salmon, 1; assaulting bailiff, 1.

Acquittal.—Possession of gaff, 4.

16.—The Board applied for an Order under the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1907, and the Act confirming such Order, under the title of the "Usk Fisheries Provisional Order Confirmation Act, 1908," received the Royal Assent on the 1st August 1908. The old Board will go out of office on the 1st February next and the newly constituted Board will then take its place.

All the necessary steps have been taken for the constitution of the new Board, and the first meeting will be held on the 18th February next. The Board have already assessed all the Fisheries, and it is hoped that when the Act is in working order the Board will be able to deal effectively with the serious financial position which has been gradually getting worse.

17.—The dates and places of the meetings of the new Board have not yet been fixed, but, as mentioned above, the first meeting will be held on the 18th February next, at Abergavenny.

WYE DISTRICT.

1.—(a.) About the average. (b.) Above the average.

2.—(a.) 2,198 salmon, weighing 25,095½ lbs. (b.) 1,571 salmon, weighing 27,171 lbs. Total, 3,769 salmon, weighing 52,266½ lbs.

3.—(a.) Good season. (c.) An average take of coarse fish taken by anglers.

4.—Less diseased fish noticed than during an ordinary season.

5.—(a.) 8 permanent, 1 temporary. (b.) 25 permanent. Total, 34.

8.—Yes.

9.—Sir Thomas Freake, Bart., of Monmouth, has guaranteed £100, the rent of Bigawear Draft, and in consequence the Association will not net there during the season 1909, and there will be no draft net upon the river from mouth to source.

14:—

FOR SALMON.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Putchers (Private Waters) ...	750 at	1	10	6	per 50 =	22	17	6
Stop net (Private Waters) ...	1 "	10	0	0	=	10	0	0
Ditto (Private Waters) ...	21 "	5	0	0	=	105	0	0
Lave net (Private Waters) ...	2 "	2	0	0	=	4	0	0
Beating net (Private Waters) ...	1 "	20	0	0	=	20	0	0
Rod: for the season ...	188 "	1	10	0	=	282	0	0
" for a fortnight ...	159 "	0	10	0	=	79	10	0
" for the season (Upper Waters) ...	15 "	0	15	0	=	11	5	0
Total ...						534	12	6

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Trammel net ...	3 at	1	13	4	=	5	0	0
Cleaching net and Night line ...	78 "	0	1	0	=	3	18	0
Rod: for the season ...	1,482 "	0	2	6	=	185	5	0
" for a fortnight ...	2,040 "	0	1	0	=	102	0	0
Total ...						296	3	0

15:—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Unlawful possession of a salmon, 1; possession of unseasonable salmon, 1; possession of spear, 1; possession of gaff, 1; fishing for trout without licence, 1.

17.—The Shire Hall, Hereford, 1.30 p.m., Wednesday, February 17th, 1909.

SEVERN DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) A good average.

2.—(a.) 20,450 salmon. (b.) 50 salmon. Total, 20,500 salmon.

3.—(a.) Reports vary greatly depending on whether the coarse fish are kept down. (c.) Increasing in numbers to the detriment of trout fishing. (d.) Bad season. (e.) Increasing in the upper waters; and in some streams are taking the place of trout.

5.—(a.) 11 permanent; 1 temporary. (b.) 28 permanent (honorary). Total, 40.

8.—Powick fish-pass is far from satisfactory and requires some alteration or addition.

12. The Van mine has recommenced work but at present on a limited scale and since the close of the year a report has been received that a mine on the Rhaidr about three miles from Rhaidr Mochmant is being restarted. This mine has not been worked for 25 years.

13.—General Inspection.

14 :—

FOR SALMON

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Patts (Private Waters)	...	232	at	0 2 6	=	29	0	0
" (Private Waters)	...	80	"	0 1 0	=	4	0	0
Patchers (Private Waters)	...	5,650	"	1 0 0	per 50	113	0	0
Stop net (Private Waters)	...	13	"	3 0 0	=	39	0	0
Outriggers and Leaders (Private Waters)	...	4	"	various	=	12	0	0
Outriggers and Leaders (Private Waters)	...	10	"	1 0 0	=	10	0	0
Lave net (Private Waters)	...	18	"	1 10 0	=	27	0	0
Ditto (Private Waters)	...	3	"	1 0 0	=	3	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters)	...	72	"	1 10 0	=	108	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters)	...	1	"	1 0 0	=	1	0	0
Draft net (Private Waters)	...	7	"	5 0 0	=	35	0	0
Ditto (Private Waters)	...	4	"	4 0 0	=	16	0	0
Ditto (Private Waters)	...	1	"	2 0 0	=	2	0	0
Ditto (Private Waters)	...	1	"	1 1 0	=	1	1	0
Ditto (Public Waters)	...	9	"	3 0 0	=	27	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters)	...	11	"	2 0 0	=	22	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters)	...	5	"	1 1 0	=	5	5	0
Rod : for the season	...	21	"	0 10 0	=	10	10	0
Total	...					464	16	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Draft and bush net	...	15	at	0 7 0	=	5	5	0
Weir trap	...	9	"	0 15 0	=	6	15	0
Night line	...	20	"	0 5 0	=	5	0	0
Rod : for the season	...	3,104	"	0 2 0	=	310	8	0
"	...	1,136	"	0 1 0	=	56	16	0
General Licence	...	1			=	17	10	0
Total	...					401	14	0

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing for trout without licence, 2 ; taking freshwater fish in close season, 2 ; using snatch for freshwater fish, 1.

Dismissed on payment of costs.—Taking young of salmon, 1.

SECOND OFFENCE.

Conviction.—Fishing for trout without licence, 1.

THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENCE.

Conviction.—Using night lines without licence, 1.

17.—On the last Thursdays in the months of January, April, July, and October, at the Council House, Birmingham.

AVON, BRUE AND PARRET DISTRICT.

1.—(a.) Below the average.

3.—(a.) Fairly good.

5.—(a.) 12 permanent. (b.) 21 permanent. Total, 33.

16.—The Hutch or Box at Umberleigh, belonging to the Rt. Hon. Lord Clinton, and formerly to the late Hon. Mark Rolle, is now removed altogether; the apparatus, which has been in existence many years, has always been a *bête noir* to anglers on the River Taw.

17.—The second Friday after each Devon Quarter Sessions, at the Guildhall, Barnstaple.

CAMEL DISTRICT.

1.—(a.) Average. (b.) Below.

3.—(a.) A poor season on account of the dry weather.

4.—There have been two or three instances of diseased fish reported all of which have been carefully buried, and where possible burnt.

5.—(a.) 1 permanent; 1 temporary. (b.) 6 permanent (honorary). Total, 8.

8.—Yes.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Hang or drift net (Public Waters) ...	...	1 at	0	10	0	=	0	10	0
Draft or seine net (Public Waters) ...	...	6 "	2	0	0	=	12	0	0
Rod : for the season ...	...	59 "	0	15	0	=	44	5	0
" for a fortnight ...	...	35 "	0	5	0	=	8	15	0
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65	10	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season ...	...	160 at	0	5	0	=	40	0	0
" for a fortnight ...	...	80 "	0	2	6	=	10	0	0
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0

17.—Quarterly, with bye-meetings as necessary, alternately Bodmin and Wadebridge.

FOWEY DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) Much below the average.

3.—(a.) Good in the unpolluted water.

5.—(a.) 2 permanent; 4 temporary. Total, 6.

8.—Yes.

13.—The Board have done what they can by representation to the mine owners—with no result.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Hang or drift net (Public Waters) ...	...	13 at	0	5	0	=	3	5	0
Draft or seine net (Public Waters) ...	...	2 "	2	10	0	=	5	0	0
Rod : for the season ...	...	31 "	0	15	0	=	23	5	0
" for a fortnight ...	...	6 "	0	13	0	=	3	18	0
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	8	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season ...	...	411 at	0	5	0	=	102	15	0

17.—Quarterly on the Monday following Quarter Sessions.

TAMAR AND PLYM DISTRICT.

1.—(a.) and (c.) Above the average. (b.) Below.

3.—(a.) Below the average. Owing to the dry summer and consequent low water in the rivers there were not so many taken as usual. (d.) Very plentiful, and large numbers were taken.

- 4.—Yes, in a few cases early in the season, in the upper waters of the Tamar.
 5.—(a.) 5 permanent; 1 temporary. (b.) 8 permanent; 1 temporary.
 Total, 15.
 6.—Dam at Hill Bridge on River Tavy partly repaired. Plans of proposed fish-pass have been submitted.
 8.—Yes.
 12.—A mine at Marytavy has recommenced working and caused some pollution of the River Tavy. There has been no evidence of damage as yet except discolouration of water.
 13.—Notice was served on the Owner of the Mine. Catch pits have been constructed and the pollution has diminished.
 14 :—

FOR SALMON.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Draft or seine net (Private Waters) ...	2 at	3	10	0	=	7	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters) ...	10 "	3	10	0	=	35	0	0
Rod : for the season ...	229 "	0	10	0	=	114	10	0
Total ...						156	10	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season ...	825 at	0	2	6	=	103	2	6
" for a day ...	114 "	0	1	0	=	5	14	0
Total ...						108	16	6

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Corrections.—Taking salmon by means other than a properly licensed instrument, 3; fishing for trout without a licence, 1.

AVON (DEVON) DISTRICT.

- 1.—(a.) Below the average.
 3.—(a.) Average.
 5.—(a.) 1 permanent; 1 temporary. Total, 2.
 8.—Yes.
 14 :—

FOR SALMON.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Box, crib, or cruce (Private Waters) ...	1 at	10	0	0	=	10	0	0
Draft or seine net (Private Waters) ...	3 "	5	0	0	=	15	0	0
Rod : for the season ...	11 "	1	0	0	=	11	0	0
Total ...						36	0	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season ...	85 at	0	10	0	=	42	10	0
" for a week ...	23 "	0	5	0	=	5	15	0
" for a day ...	68 "	0	2	0	=	6	16	0
Total ...						55	1	0

16.—The desirability of extending the season for net fishing.

17.—Quarterly at Kingsbridge and South Brent.

DART DISTRICT.

- 1.—(a.) and (c.) Below the average. (b.) About the average.
 2.—(a.) 1,524 salmon, weighing 16,308 lbs. (b.) 265 salmon, weighing 2,905 lbs. Total, 1,789 salmon, weighing 19,213 lbs.
 3.—(a.) A poor season. (d.) Numerous.
 5.—(a.) 4 permanent.

8.—All in good repair.

11.—An experimental grating was erected by the Devonport Corporation in their leat from the West Dart to prevent salmon fry passing down the West Dart. Further observations will be made this spring with a view to ascertaining its usefulness.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Draft or seine net (Private Waters)...	...	2 at	5	0	0	=	10	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters) ...	...	19 "	5	0	0	=	95	0	0
Rod : for the season ...	...	125 "	1	0	0	=	125	0	0
" for a week ...	...	108 "	0	7	6	=	38	12	6
" for a day ...	...	29 "	0	2	6	=	3	12	6
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	272	5	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season ...	...	253 at	0	10	0	=	126	10	0
" for a month ...	...	233 "	0	5	0	=	58	5	0
" for a day... ...	...	145 "	0	2	0	=	14	10	0
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	199	5	0

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing for salmon with a licensed net without having names endorsed on license, 3 ; Fishing for salmon with rod and line without a licence, 1 ; Omitting to shut mill sluice on Sunday, 2 (case stated for decision of High Court).

Acquittals.—Omitting to shut mill sluice on Sunday, 2.

17.—The Monday after the third Tuesday in each month at the Guildhall, Totnes.

TEIGN DISTRICT.

1.—(a.) About the average. (b.) and (c.) Below the average.

2.—(a.) 860 salmon, weighing 7,457½ lbs. ; 467 migratory trout, weighing 1,130½ lbs. (b.) 20 salmon, weighing 196½ lbs. ; 300 migratory trout, weighing 300 lbs. Total, 880 salmon, weighing 7,654 lbs. ; 767 migratory trout, weighing 1,430½ lbs.

3.—(a.) Poor.

5.—(a.) 2 permanent ; 1 temporary. Total, 3.

6.—The Weir at Jewsbridge on the River Bovey which was rebuilt two years ago still remains without a fish pass. It is understood that the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries have called upon the owner to place one as mentioned in our return last year, but the work has not yet been commenced.

8.—Yes.

12.—All the fish in the River Lemon below the inlet from Stormsdown Mine, the property of Mr. Bayldon, were destroyed by pollution on the 11th September, 1908. Arrangements have been made with Mr. Bayldon to restock the river with trout during the present month of February, 1909.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Draft or seine net (Public Waters) ...	...	11 at	5	0	0	=	55	0	0
Fixed net (Public Waters) ...	...	22 "	1	0	0	=	22	0	0
Rod : for the season ...	...	69 "	1	0	0	=	69	0	0
" for a day... ...	...	53 "	0	2	0	=	5	6	0
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	151	6	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

FOR PROFIT AND CHAR.										£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season	...	...	...	...	339	at	0	5	0	=	84	15	0
General Licence	...	...	...	...	1					=	2	2	0
Total	...	...	...	...	...						86	17	0

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing for trout without a licence, 1 ; snatching salmon, 2.

17.—Three times a year at the Clerks' Offices.

EXE DISTRICT.

- 1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) Above the average.
- 2.—(a.) 4,237 salmon, weighing 36,896½ lbs. (b.) 604 salmon, weighing 5,914½ lbs. Total, 4,841 salmon, weighing 42,811½ lbs.
- 3.—(a.) A fair season.
- 4.—A few suspicious cases were detected and the fish captured and buried.
- 5.—(a.) 4 permanent.
- 8.—Yes.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

FOR SALMON.										£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Draft or seine net (Private Waters)	...	...	...	1	at	5	0	0	=	5	0	0		5	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters)	...	...	...	25	"	3	10	0	=	87	10	0		87	10	0
Rod : for the season	...	...	...	101	"	1	10	0	=	151	10	0		151	10	0
" for a week	...	...	...	38	"	0	7	6	=	14	5	0		14	5	0
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		258	5	0		258	5	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

					£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Rod : for the season	723	at	0	5	0	=	180	15	0
" for a week	345	"	0	2	6	=	43	2	6
" for a day	175	"	0	1	0	=	8	15	0
Total		232	12	6

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing for trout without a licence, 4 ; catching young of salmon, 1 ; taking salmon by other means than a properly licensed instrument, 1 ; attempting to take salmon by other means than a properly licensed instrument, 1 ; using set lines, 1.

17.—General meetings of Board are held when required.

AXE DISTRICT.

- 1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) Below.
- 3.—(a.) Fair, particularly at commencement of season.
- 5.—(a.) 1 permanent. (b.) 10 temporary. Total, 11.
- 8.—One of the tubs of the Westwater Fish Pass was wholly washed away during the late floods, but the owner has replaced this tub in accordance with the approved plans.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

FOR SALMON.												
				£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		
Draft or seine net (Private Waters)	2	at	5	0	0	=	10	0	0
Rod : for the season	26	"	0	10	0	=	13	0	0
Total		23	0	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		
Drag net	1	at	1	13	0	=	1	13	0
Rod : for the season	200	"	0	2	6	=	32	10	0
Total							34	3	0

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Aquittals.—Using spear for catching salmon, 1 : taking salmon by other means than a properly licensed instrument and aiding and abetting, 2.

17.—Ordinary meetings held quarterly on the second Tuesday in the months of February, May, August, and November, at 2.30 p.m., at the Clerk's offices, Silver Street, Axminster.

FROME DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.), Below the average.

2.—(a.), 13 salmon, weighing 182 lbs. (b.) 6 salmon, weighing 96 lbs.

Total, 19 salmon, weighing 278 lbs.

5.—(a.) 1 permanent, 13 temporary water men. Total, 14.

8.—Stoke Mills pass requires repairs.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

FOR SALMON.											
					£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Draft or seine net (Private Waters)...	...	1	at	5	0	0	=	5	0	0	
Rod : for the season ... ..	...	11	"	1	0	0	=	11	0	0	
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	0	0	

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing for salmon with net without licence, 3.

17.—No fixed dates.

HAMPSHIRE RIVERS DISTRICT.

1.—(a.) This being the first year of the enlarged District it is impossible to obtain the particulars necessary to reply to these questions.

2.—(a.) 527 salmon ; 342 migratory trout. (b.) 239 salmon ; 89 migratory trout. Total 1,197 fish.

3.—(a.) It has not been possible to obtain information.

5.—(a.) 3 permanent. (b.) 14 temporary. Total, 17.

8.—Yes, with the exception of Throop, and the Board of Conservators hopes for the co-operation of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries in regard to this pass.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

FOR SALMON.									
		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Knapp Fishing Weir (Private Waters) ...	1	at	12	0	0	=	12	0	0
Draft or seine net (Private Waters) ...	3	"	4	0	0	=	12	0	0
Ditto. (Public Waters) ...	11	"	4	0	0	=	44	0	0
Rod : for the season	100	"	1	10	0	=	150	0	0
General Licences	3					=	30	0	0
Total							248	0	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Net	5 at	0	7	6	=	1	17	6
Drag net... ..	6 "	0	7	6	=	2	5	0
Stop net... ..	2 "	0	1	0	=	0	2	0
Rod : for the season	14 "	0	10	0	=	7	0	0
" " " " " " " "	196 "	0	5	0	=	49	0	0
" for a month	2 "	0	5	0	=	0	10	0
" for a week	88 "	0	2	6	=	11	0	0
" for a day	125 "	0	1	0	=	6	5	0
General Licences	5				=	6	2	0
Total						84	1	6

15.—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Attempting to fish for salmon without a licence, 1; killing trout without a licence, 1; killing salmon with rod during close season, 1; killing trout with rod during close season, 1.

17.—The annual meeting 5th February; second meeting 2nd July; third meeting 29th October; all at Southampton.

ADUR DISTRICT.

3.—(a.) and (d.) About the average. (e.) Above the average.

5.—(b.) 14 permanent.

14 :—

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season	74 at	0	1	0	=	3	14	0

17.—Town Hall, Brighton, when required.

HOVE (SUSSEX) DISTRICT

1.—I have not heard that any salmon have been taken.

3.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) I have not heard of any. (d.) and (e.) They have been plentiful.

5.—(b.) 1 permanent.

8.—I believe so.

17.—Meetings are held at the office of the Clerk when necessary.

CUCKMERE DISTRICT.

3.—(a.) Average. (d.) Numerous. (e.) Average.

5.—(b.) 9 permanent.

14 :—

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season	121 at	0	1	0	=	6	1	0

17.—January and June, at the Junction Hotel, Polegate.

ROTHER DISTRICT.

3.—(d.) Considerable quantity. (e.) Fair quantity.

5.—(a.) 8 permanent. (b.) 2 permanent. Total, 10.

14 :—

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Net	1 at	1	10	0	=	1	10	0
Rod : for the season	142 "	0	1	0	=	7	2	0
Total						8	12	0

17.—January, Cinque Ports Hotel, Rye. June, Castle Hotel, Bodinn.

SUFFOLK AND ESSEX DISTRICT.

- 1.—(a.) Very few in district.
 3.—(a.) Very few trout waters. (d.) and (e.) About average.
 5.—(b.) 75 permanent.
 8.—Yes.
 12.—Alleged pollution of River Gipping, at Stowupland, is to receive consideration by the East Suffolk County Council.
 13.—An inquiry as to pollution of River Stour, at Long Melford, was instituted and reported to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and an undertaking was given by the Long Melford Gas Co. that no more waste shall be discharged into the river.
 17.—When required, at County Hall, Ipswich.

NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK DISTRICT.

- 17.—On a Saturday in January or February, at the Shirehall, Norwich.

OUSE AND NENE DISTRICT.

16.—The Board of Conservators has not met since the year 1888. Bedfordshire County Council is the only authority which forwards me the names of the three Conservators, duly appointed by that body. I receive no information of appointments by the other Counties. I have not received any intimations of prosecutions under the Bye-laws during past year, 1903, but the official documents and maps usually required in cases of prosecution, have been lent during the year for information to the St. Ives and District Angling Society. They are now in my custody again. The debit balance remains the same as last year. It is my intention to inform the Chairman that I wish to resign this nominal office of Clerk.

WELLAND DISTRICT.

- 3.—(d.) Very scarce. (e.) Plentiful.

WITHAM DISTRICT.

- 3.—(a.) Not many caught. (d.) There are large quantities in the district. (e.) Roach very plentiful. Perch also have certainly increased in numbers.
 5.—(b.) 1 permanent and 2 temporary (paid by the Lincoln Angling Association). Total, 3. The Police at Boston are appointed as honorary bailiffs.
 13.—The Corporation of Lincoln cannot prevent the effluents from their sewage farm from running into the Sincil dyke (a tributary of the Witham), but it is believed that such effluents are rendered as innocuous as possible.

14 :—

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

FOR ABOUT AND CHAR.												
				£	s.	d.						
Red : for the season	9	at	0	2	6	=	1	2	6

16.—The Board is practically without funds.

17.—No fixed meetings are held.

TRENT DISTRICT.

- 1.—Below the average.
 3.—(a.) Very good during the early portion of the year but poor in the autumn. (c.) Good. (d.) Fair. (e.) Very good.
 5.—(a.) 1 permanent; 1 temporary. (b.) 60 permanent. Total, 61.
 6.—The weir at King's Mills on the Trent is becoming more dilapidated every year and offers but little obstruction to salmon.
 8.—The fish passes as a rule are not approved. They are only passable at high floods.
 12.—There are several works causing pollution of streams in this District and as the cases occur they are enquired into and parties are approached with a view to the same being remedied.
 13.—In consequence of the remonstrances of this Board several Local Authorities have started Sewage Works which are more or less satisfactory.

14:—

FOR SALMON.

				£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Stand net (Private Waters) ...	...	...	1 at	1	0	0	=	1	0	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

				£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Net ...	...	...	5 at	0	10	0	=	2	10	0
Rod : for the season ...	...	...	2,213 "	0	2	6	=	276	12	6
" for a week ...	...	...	582 "	0	1	0	=	29	2	0
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...		308	4	6

15.—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Using night lines, 1 ; taking freshwater fish, 3.

16.—The chief obstacles to salmon getting up the river are the non-efficiency of the fish passes and the large amount of fish which are reported to be taken on the coast immediately north of the mouth of the River Trent.

17.—Early in the year and generally at Derby, as being central.

YORKSHIRE DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) Below the average.

2.—(a.) 225 salmon, weighing 2,173½ lbs.; 1,522 migratory trout, weighing 6,653 lbs. (b.) 1 salmon, weighing 11 lbs. Total, 1,748 fish, weighing 8,837½ lbs.

3.—(a.) Very fair generally. (c.) and (e.) Fair. (d.) Poor.

5.—(a.) 2 permanent. (b.) 147 permanent. Total, 149.

8.—Yes.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

				£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Draft or seine net (Private Waters) ...	...	...	2 at	5	0	0	=	10	0	0
Drift net (Public Waters) ...	...	...	1 "	2	10	0	=	2	10	0
" (Public Waters) ...	...	...	7 "	3	0	0	=	21	0	0
" (Public Waters) ...	...	...	1 "	3	10	0	=	3	10	0
" (Public Waters) ...	...	...	7 "	4	0	0	=	28	0	0
" (Public Waters) ...	...	...	1 "	5	0	0	=	5	0	0
Click net (Public Waters) ...	...	...	6 "	3	0	0	=	18	0	0
Rod : for the season ...	...	...	4 "	1	0	0	=	4	0	0
General Licence ...	...	...	1 "	...	...	...	=	3	3	0
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...		95	3	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

				£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Net ...	...	...	2 at	1	13	4	=	3	6	8
Rod : for the season ...	...	...	13,949 "	0	1	0	=	697	9	0
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...		700	15	8

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing for trout without licence, 7 ; using draft net for bait, 2 ; taking coarse fish in close time, 5 ; groping for trout, 1 ; using snare for trout, 1 ; using set or bottom lines, 3 ; possession of snatch, 1 ; putting chloride of lime in stream, 3.

Aquittals.—Fishing for trout without licence, 2 ; groping for trout, 2 ; using set or bottom line, 1.

17.—The General Annual Meeting is held in February, but no dates have been fixed for other meetings.

ESK (YORKS) DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) Below the average.

2.—(a.) 5,817 salmon and migratory trout, weighing 29,531 lbs. (b.) 51 salmon, weighing 422 lbs.; 105 migratory trout, weighing 614 lbs. Total, 5,973 fish, weighing 30,567 lbs.

3.—(a.) Below the average.

Comparative statement :—

—	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908
SALMON NETS AT SEA.					
Number issued ...	30	37	41	44	46
Revenue ...	£75 0s. 0d.	£92 10s. 0d.	£102 10s. 0d.	£110 0s. 0d.	£115 0s. 0d.
Catch ...	6,810	7,989	9,161	6,781	5,817
Average weight ...	4.104 lbs.	4.506 lbs.	4.293 lbs.	5.595 lbs.	5.077 lbs.
SALMON NETS IN RIVER.					
Number issued ...	1	—	—	—	—
Revenue ...	£2 0s. 0d.	—	—	—	—
Catch ...	4	—	—	—	—
Average weight ...	4 lbs.	—	—	—	—
SALMON RODS.					
Number issued ...	35	93	90	95	72
Revenue ...	£42 10s. 0d.	£46 0s. 0d.	£45 0s. 0d.	£47 10s. 0d.	£36 0s. 0d.
Catch ...	315	253	235	215	156
Average weight ...	5.268 lbs.	6.753 lbs.	6.140 lbs.	7.267 lbs.	6.5 lbs.
TROUT RODS.					
Number issued ...	539	545	554	569	612
Revenue ...	£44 3s. 6d.	£40 17s. 6d.	£41 11s. 0d.	£42 13s. 6d.	£45 13s. 0d.

Particulars for 1908 :—

	t.	c.	q.	lbs.	
Weight of fish caught by net at sea.	13	3	2	19	—Value £1,781 12s. 5d.
Weight of fish caught by rod.	0	9	0	26	Average per boat £38 14s. 7½d.

Average price 14.479d. per lb.

13 12 3 17

Heaviest fish caught by rod ...	20 lbs.	Average amount of licence duty paid per fish caught—	£.	d.
" " " net ...	27½ lbs.	Net at sea ...	0	4.745
First fish caught by rod ...	20th July	Rod ...	4	7.32
" " " net at sea ...	13th May			

Of the fish caught by rod the following is the analysis:—Salmon (Salar.), 51 fish average weight 8.274 lbs.; Salmo Trutta, 69 fish, average weight 5.536 lbs.; Salmo Eriox, 36 fish, average weight 6.5 lbs.

4.—There was less "disease" than usual. The following gives in tabulated form particulars of all the dead fish taken from the water by the water bailiffs during 1908.

—		Males.				Females.			
		No.	Weight.	Spawwed.	Not Spawwed.	No.	Weight.	Spawwed.	Not Spawwed.
Salmon (S. salar) ...	Diseased ...	23	230	23	—	8	80	5	—
	Not diseased	—	—	—	—	7	59	1	6
Salmon trout (S. trutta).	Diseased ...	3	20	3	—	6	28	6	—
	Not diseased	4	24	—	4	7	34	6	1
Bull trout (S. eriox)	Diseased ...	4	27	4	—	1	6	1	—
	Not diseased	11	81	—	11	10	66	3	7

5.—(a.) 2 permanent; 2 temporary. Total, 4. Two-thirds of the cost of the temporary water bailiffs was repaid to the Board by Sir Francis Ley, Bt., and Messrs. J. Foster & Son.

6.—The small dam at Comondale has not yet been provided with a pass, although the owner has several times promised to submit plans to the department.

8.—Yes.

14:—

FOR SALMON.

FOR SALMON.										
				£	s.	d.				
Hang or drift net (Public Waters)	46	at	2	10	0	=	115	0	0
Rod: for the season	72	"	0	10	0	=	36	0	0
Total	151	0	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

					£	s.	d.				£	s.	d.	
Rod: for the season	612 at	0	1	6	=	45	18	0			

15.—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing in annual close time, 1; possession of gaff, 1.

16.—Both at sea and in the river the past year was most disappointing. Bad weather prevailed on the coast at intervals during the fishing season. The last fortnight in August when the boats should have had their harvest there were only three or four fishable days. In the river after a light fresh in May there was hardly any travelling water till the end of October and beginning of November. Nearly all the rod fish were taken in the tideway. Since November the water has been ample and fish have gone up in thousands and were still going on 12th January, on which date kelts from the early runners were descending.

The dry summer also caused the trout fishing to be practically a failure.

17.—Quarterly in Whitby on dates fixed by the Committee.

TEES DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) About the average. The salmon though fewer in number were heavier, and in the total a greater weight was brought to market. The salmon trout showed a falling off both in number and weight.

2.—(a.) 6,602 salmon, weighing 86,043 lbs.; 2,157 migratory trout, weighing 7,890 lbs. (b.) 645 salmon and migratory trout, weighing 6,139 lbs. Total, 9,404 fish, weighing 100,072 lbs.

3.—(a.) Above the average.

4.—One or two cases of no importance.

5.—(a.) 5 permanent; 2 temporary. (b.) 1 permanent. Total, 8.

13.—A strict watch is kept on all places likely to cause pollution by the Board's officers and also by the County Council. Successful so far as we know.

14:—

FOR SALMON.

				£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Hang or drift net (Private Waters) ...	...	7	at	5	0	0	=	35	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters) ...	...	24	"	5	0	0	=	120	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters) ...	...	4	"	6	10	0	=	26	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters) ...	...	6	"	7	0	0	=	42	0	0
Ditto (Public Waters) ...	...	41	"	7	10	0	=	307	10	0
Ditto (Public Waters) ...	...	1	"	8	0	0	=	8	0	0
Rod : for the season ...	...	163	"	1	0	0	=	163	0	0
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	701	10	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR

FOR PROFIT AND CHARGE													
					£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		
Rod : for the season	1,771	at	0	2	6	=	221	7	6

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Attempting to take salmon in close season, 3 ; killing salmon in close season, 3 ; fishing for salmon without licence, 4 ; killing salmon without licence, 2 ; using a fixed engine, 4.

Acquitted.—Disturbing salmon, 1.

16.—There appears to be an increase in the discharge of sewage matter into the tidal waters in the estuary.

17.—The Chairman fixes the meetings.

WEAR DISTRICT.

1.—(a.) Above the average. (b.) Below.

2.—(a.) 2,320 salmon, weighing 29,312 lbs. ; 5,249 migratory trout, weighing 15,747 lbs. Total, 7,569 fish, weighing 45,059 lbs.

3.—(a.) A poor season.

4.—One case of salmon disease has been reported at Willington, viz :—that of a 14 lb. salmon. At Durham on the 26th December, one male salmon, weighing 16 lb., unspawned, was found dying ; on the 28th December two males, weighing 15 lb. and 24 lb. respectively, partly spawned, and one female, weighing 17 lb., spawned, were found dying ; and on the 31st December, one male, weighing 17 lb., was found dead. These and others found later were, the bailiff states, true salmon and several of them appeared to be affected by fungus.

5.—(a.) 1 permanent ; 4 temporary. (b.) (Partly) 1 permanent. Total, 6.

6.—The construction of the new fish pass at the West Mills Dam, Bishop Auckland, by the Urban District Council has been carried out so far that the pass is in working order.

8.—Yes.

12.—Nothing unusual.

13.—Steps were taken by Local Authorities ; fairly successful.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Hang or drift net (Public Waters) ...	..	20 at	5	0	0	=	100	0	0
Rod : for the season ...	...	329 "	0	5	0	=	82	5	0
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...		182	5	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

			£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rod : for the season ...	...	1,253 at	0	2	0	=	125	6	0

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Taking young of salmon, 1 ; attempting to take unseasonable salmon, 2 ; fishing in close season, 1 ; scotching, 7 ; using fish roe, 2 ; possession of unseasonable trout, 1.

Acquitted.—Malicious damage, 1.

SECOND OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Snatching, 3.

16.—The bailiff observed no less than 20 pairs of salmon in the vicinity of Durham in the early part of January, and there is reason to believe that the numbers of true salmon entering the river Wear will increase in future.

17.—Annual meeting, fourth Friday in May, at Sunderland, (at noon). First quarterly meeting, fourth Friday in August, at Durham, (at 2.30 p.m.) Second quarterly meeting, first Friday in November, at Sunderland, (at noon). Third quarterly meeting, first Friday in February, at Sunderland, (at noon).

TYNE DISTRICT.

1.—(a.) Above the average. (b.) and (c.) Below.

2.—(a.) 12,143 salmon, weighing 188,710½ lbs.; 7,494 migratory trout, weighing 36,707½ lbs. Total 19,637 fish, weighing 225,418 lbs.

3.—(a.) Good in the beginning of the season; later, much below the average owing to the dry weather. (a.) Smelt much increased in tideway. Roach and dace have decreased very much in tideway owing to the Tyne Improvement Commissioners' dredging and the greater flow of salt water, but they have slightly increased in fresh water.

4.—Slightly, and 89 fish died affected with it, viz., 86 male salmon and 3 male trout (*Salmo Trutta*) all spawned fish; this was in the months of January and February; none this spawning season.

5.—(a.) 5 permanent; 9 temporary. Total, 14.

13.—The Fourstones Paper Mill Company have installed new plant at their Mill at Warden on the South Tyne, with the result that pollution from that source is considerably decreased. Pollution in tide way remains unabated.

14 :—

FOR SALMON.

FOR SALMON.										£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Draft or seine net (Private Waters)	...	26	at	5	0	0	=	130	0	0					
Ditto (Public Waters)	...	65	"	5	0	0	=	325	0	0					
Rod : for the season	...	92	"	1	0	0	=	92	0	0					
"	...	66	"	0	10	0	=	33	0	0					
"	...	86	"	0	5	0	=	21	10	0					
for a week	...	7	"	0	10	0	=	3	10	0					
"	...	3	"	0	5	0	=	0	15	0					
"	...	2	"	0	2	6	=	0	5	0					
for a day...	...	3	"	0	5	0	=	0	15	0					
"	...	3	"	0	2	6	=	0	7	6					
"	...	6	"	0	1	0	=	0	6	0					
General Licences	...	22	"	...	...	...	=	75	3	0					
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	682	11	6					

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

					£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Rod : for the season	1,139	at	0	2	6	=	142	7	6
" for a month	902	"	0	1	0	=	45	2	0
General Licence	1		...			=	0	10	0
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	187	19	6	

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Angling for trout without licence, 3; possession of gaff, 5; possession of unseasonable salmon, 6; selling salmon in annual close time, 1; fishing with light and spear, 1.

Withdrawal on payment of costs.—Killing salmon annual close time, 1.

17.—On the second Thursday in March, the third Saturday in May, the second Thursday in October, and the second Thursday in December, at the Moot Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

COQUET DISTRICT.

1.—(a.), (b.), and (c.) About the average.

3.—(a.) Good.

5.—(a.) 3 permanent; 4 temporary. (b.) 59 temporary. Total, 66.

6.—Felton Dam (improved).

8.—Yes.

12.—Yes, from Newton.

14 :—

FOR SALMON

				£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Hang or drift net (Private Waters)	...	46	at	1	0	0	=	46	0	0	
Ditto (Private Waters)	...	2	"	4	0	0	=	8	0	0	
Ditto (Public Waters)	...	46	"	4	0	0	=	184	0	0	
Rod : for the season	433	"	0	5	0	=	108	5
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	346	5	0

FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

FOR 1867 AND 1868.													
					£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		
Rod :	for the season	637	at	0	2	6	=	79	12	6

15 :—

FIRST OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing without licence, 6 ; aiding and abetting in same, 1 ; fishing in close season, 2 ; using gaff, 1 ; possession of gaff, 2.

Withdrawn.—Possession of gaff, 2.

SECOND OFFENCE.

Convictions.—Fishing in close season, 2.

17.—Alnwick, last Saturday in January ; Acklington, last Saturday in April ; Rothbury, last Saturday in July ; Warkworth, last Saturday in October.

ABSTRACT of Abstracts of the several Volumes of

[illegible]

APPENDIX III.

TABLE NO. I.—SUMMARY of the ESTIMATED NUMBER of SALMON FISHERMEN employed, and of the ACTUAL REVENUE from SALMON LICENCES, exclusive of that from Endorsements, in the Years 1894–1908.

Year,	Number of			Revenue from			Total Revenue.
	Net Fishermen (estimated), ^a	Rod Licences Issued.	General Licences.	Nets, &c.	Rods.	General Licences.	
1894 ...	3,580	5,472	33	£ 5,571	£ 2,970	£ 222	£ 8,764
1895 ...	3,550	5,686	48	5,878	2,847	209	8,484
1896 ...	3,610	5,768	48	5,584	2,886	224	8,694
1897 ...	3,530	5,557	52	5,204	2,901	218	8,323
1898 ...	3,120	5,225	50	4,599	2,741	218	7,558
1899 ...	2,830	4,474	45	4,168	2,404	208	6,775
1900 ...	2,660	3,385	48	3,950	2,597	215	6,762
1901 ...	2,750	4,683	45	4,079	2,319	213	6,611
1902 ...	2,625	4,907	47	3,905	2,479	222	6,606
1903 ...	2,635	6,820	47	3,994	3,294	216	7,504
1904 ...	2,753	5,845	47	4,095	3,277	202	7,594
1905 ...	2,965	5,847	54	4,393	3,325	217	7,935
1906 ...	2,770	6,153	50	4,115	3,241	206	7,562
1907 ...	2,632	6,190	51	3,910	3,607	193	7,710
1908 ...	2,770	6,271	59	4,115	3,736	240	8,091

TABLE NO. II.—SUMMARY of the NUMBER of and REVENUE from TROUT LICENCES in the Years 1894–1908.

Year.	Number of		Revenue from			Total.
	Rods.	Other Instruments.	Rods.	Other Instruments.	General Licences.	
1894 ...	46,291	1,613	£ 3,923	£ 122	—	£ 4,045
1895 ...	44,527	1,170	3,766	105	1	3,872
1896 ...	46,131	1,696	3,918	116	—	4,034
1897 ...	47,829	139	4,131	85	6	4,222
1898 ...	48,234	172	4,268	91	23	4,382
1899 ...	47,116	177	4,206	74	23	4,303
1900 ...	46,857	136	4,157	61	6	4,224
1901 ...	47,994	131	4,352	64	22	4,438
1902 ...	52,484	157	4,895	70	17	4,982
1903 ...	58,014	209	5,394	69	19	5,482
1904 ...	56,703	272	5,359	97	21	5,467
1905 ...	56,871	235	5,621	71	21	5,713
1906 ...	57,071	263	5,834	75	21	5,930
1907 ...	58,375	267	5,956	65	21	6,042
1908 ...	57,338	198	5,885	62	28	5,975

^a This is exclusive of men employed by holders of "general licences."

N.B.—The figures for previous years will be found in the corresponding Appendix to the Annual Report for 1907 (Cd. 4393).

APPENDIX IV.

LIST of FISHERY DISTRICTS of ENGLAND AND WALES (in Order of Coast from N.W. to N.E.), with the NAMES and ADDRESSES of the CHAIRMEN and CLERKS of the several BOARDS OF CONSERVATORS (corrected to 31st March 1909).

EDEN : *Chairman*.—M. MacInnes, Rickerby, Carlisle.

Clerk.—J. B. Slater, Court Square, Carlisle.

DERWENT : *Chairman*.—Revd. Alfred Sutton, Bridekirk Vicarage, Cockermouth.

Clerk.—E. Hughes Dodgson, Cockermouth.

WEST CUMBERLAND : *Chairman*.—J. Musgrave, Wasdale Hall, Gosforth, Cumberland.

Clerk.—W. H. Chapman, 42, Lowther Street, Whitehaven.

KENT : *Chairman*.—Col. W. J. A. Baldwin, Dalton-in-Furness.

Clerks.—Messrs. Hart Jackson and Son, Ulverston.

LUNE : *Chairman*.—Edmund Sharpe, Halton Hall, near Lancaster.

Clerk.—J. T. Sanderson, 67, Church Street, Lancaster.

RIBBLE : *Chairman*.—R. J. Aspinall, Standen Hall, Clitheroe.

Clerk.—H. Backhouse, 27, Victoria Street, Blackburn.

DEE : *Chairman*.—W. Y. Hargreaves, Llan-y-Cefa, Ellesmere, Salop.

Clerk.—Henry Jolliffe, 13, St. John Street, Chester.

ELWY AND CLWYD : *Chairman*.—Col. Cornwallis West, Ruthin Castle, Ruthin.

Clerk.—F. W. Grimsley, Bryn Gobaith, St. Asaph.

CONWAY : *Chairman*.—John Blackwall, Hendre, Llanwrst.

Clerk.—C. T. Allard, Bodgwynedd, Llanwrst.

SEIONT : *Chairman*.—Capt. N. P. Stewart, Plas Lodwig, Bangor.

Clerk.—J. H. S. Roberts, 12, Market Street, Carnarvon.

DWYFACH : *Chairman*.—Sir H. J. Ellis Nanney, Bart., Gwynfryn, Criccieth.

Clerk.—David Jones, 18, Snowden Street, Portmadoc.

DOVEY : *Chairman*.—Col. G. F. Scott, Penmaenuch, Dolgelly.

Clerk.—R. D. Richards, Barmouth.

AYRON : *Chairman*.—Major Price Lewes, Ty-Glyn Aeron, Ciliau-Aeron.

Clerk.—E. Lima Jones, 5, Bridge Street, Abersyron.

TEIFY : *Chairman*.—Frank Morgan, Blaenblodan, Pencider.

Clerk.—H. W. Howell, Bank House, Lampeter.

CLEDDY : *Chairman*.—J. C. Yorke, Langton, Dwrbaeh, Pem.

Clerk.—R. T. P. Williams, High Street, Haverfordwest.

TOWY : *Chairman*.—Revd. A. Fuller Mills, Penllwyn Park, Carmarthen.

Clerk.—W. M. Griffiths, St. Mary Street, Carmarthen.

OGMORE : *Chairman*.—J. I. D. Nicholl, Merthyr-mawr House, Bridgend.

Clerk.—S. H. Stockwood, Bridgend.

TAFF AND ELY : *Chairman*.—Col. Henry Lewis, Greenmeadow, Tongwynlais, Cardiff.

Clerk.—Arthur Waldron, 17, Church Street, Cardiff.

RHYMEY : *Chairman*.—G. C. Williams, Llanrumney Hall, St. Mellons, Cardiff.

Clerk.—Horace S. Lyne, Westgate Chambers, Newport, Mon.

USK : *Chairman*.—Sir Shirley H. Salt, Bt., Gliffaes, Crickhowell.

Clerk.—Horace S. Lyne, Westgate Chambers, Newport, Mon.

WYE : *Chairman*.—Sir E. Stafford Howard, K.O.B., Office of Woods, London, S.W.

Clerk.—Major Beresford-Peirse, D.S.O., 46, Commercial Street, Hereford.

SEVERN : *Chairman*.—J. W. Willis Bund, 15, Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.

Clerk.—J. Stallard, 3, Pierpoint Street, Worcester.

AVON, BRUE, AND PARRET : *Chairman*.—R. Neville Grenville, Butleigh Court, Glastonbury.

Clerk.—T. Foster Barham, Castle Street, Bridgwater.

TAW AND TORRIDGE : *Chairman*.—J. M. Pope, Spence Combe, Copplestone, Devon.

Clerk.—W. H. Toller, Barnstaple.

- CAMEL :** *Chairman.*—B. F. Edyvean, Tregear, Bodmin.
Clerk.—G. J. L. Ellis, Wadebridge.
- FOWEY :** *Chairman.*—G. P. N. Glencross, Greenbank, Liskeard.
Clerk.—W. Pense, Lostwithiel.
- TAMAR AND PLYM :** *Chairman.*—Capt. R. C. Coode, Polapit Tamar, Launceston.
Clerk.—W. W. Mathews, Tavistock.
- AVON (Devon) :** *Chairman.*—Rev. J. T. B. Notley, Diptford Rectory, South Brent.
Clerk.—W. Beer, Kingsbridge.
- DART :** *Chairman.*—Chas. Barran, Berry House, Totnes.
Clerk.—Edward Windeatt, Totnes.
- TEIGN :** *Chairman.*—Lord Clifford, Ugbrooke Park, Chudleigh.
Clerks.—Messrs. Hacker, Michelmore and Wilkinson, Newton Abbot.
- EXE :** *Chairman.*—T. C. Daniel, Stackeridge, Rampton, Devon.
Clerk.—H. Ford, 25, Southernhay, Exeter.
- OTTER :** *Chairman.*—
Clerk.—
- AXE :** *Chairman.*—W. H. B. Knight, Hilary House, Axminster.
Clerk.—W. G. Forward, Axminster.
- FROME :** *Chairman.*—G. D. Bond, Holme, Wareham.
Clerk.—P. E. L. Budge, Wareham.
- HAMPSHIRE RIVERS :** *Chairman.*—John D. Mills, Bisterne, near Ringwood.
Clerk.—C. J. Haydon, Christchurch.
- ADUR :** *Chairman.*—W. F. Booth, 5, Vernon Gardens, Brighton.
Clerk.—E. Woods Oxharrow, 114, Queen's Road, Brighton.
- OUSE (Sussex) :** *Chairman.*—H. King, Isfield Place, Isfield, Sussex.
Clerk.—F. Holman, 86, High Street, Lewes.
- OUCKMORE :** *Chairman.*—A. J. Howard, Lessingham, Meads, Eastbourne.
Clerk.—H. J. Woodhams, Alfriston, Berwick Station, Sussex.
- ROTHER :** *Chairman.*—Thos. Daws, Soggs House, Ewhurst, Hawkhurst.
Clerk.—T. J. Smith, Flushing House, Market Street, Rye.
- STOUR (Kent) :** *Chairman.*—
Clerk.—
- SUFFOLK AND ESSEX :** *Chairman.*—Capt. E. G. Pretyman, M.P., Orwell Park, Ipswich.
Clerk.—A. Townshend Cobbold, County Hall, Ipswich.
- NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK :** *Chairman.*—John Cator, Woodbastwick Hall, Norwich.
Clerk.—H. Brittain, Bank House, St. Stephens, Norwich.
- OUSE AND NENE :** *Chairman.*—The Earl of Sandwich, Hitchingbrooke, Hunts.
Clerk.—Joseph Miller, De Parys Avenue, Bedford.
- WELLAND :** *Chairman.*—Lt.-Col. C. I. Strong, Thorpe Hall, Peterborough.
Clerk.—S. B. Sharpe, The Park, Market Deeping.
- WITHAM :** *Chairman.*—Joseph Clark, Skirbeck Road, Boston.
Clerks.—Joseph Durance, 6, Free School Lane, Lincoln, and Henry Snaith, 11, New Street, Boston.
- TRENT :** *Chairman.*—Sir R. Gresley, Bart., Drakelowe Hall, Burton-on Trent.
Clerk.—C. K. Eddowes, 2, The Strand, Derby.
- YORKSHIRE :** *Chairman.*—The Earl of Harewood, Harewood, Leeds.
Clerk.—J. E. Jones, 1, Market Street, York.
- ESK (Yorks.) :** *Chairman.*—Wm. Senton Gray, Flowergate, Whitby.
Clerk.—W. Brown, The Sawmills, Whitby.
- TEES :** *Chairman.*—Lord Barnard, Raby Castle, Darlington.
Clerk.—T. M. Barron, Church Row, Darlington.
- WEAR :** *Chairman.*—Col. T. O. McKenzie, The Cedars, Sunderland.
Clerk.—Wm. E. Raine, 52, John Street, Sunderland.
- TYNE :** *Chairman.*—Thos. Taylor, Chipchase Castle, Wark, Northumberland.
Clerk.—Jasper Gibson, Hexham.
- COQUET :** *Chairman.*—Wm. Orde, Nunnykirk, Morpeth.
Clerk.—C. Percy, Alnwick.

APPENDIX V.

CLOSE SEASONS FOR SALMON (*all dates inclusive*).

LIST showing the ANNUAL CLOSE SEASON for SALMON, the WEEKLY CLOSE SEASON, and the PERIOD locally fixed for the USE of a GAFF as auxiliary to angling with rod and line in each Fishery District on the 31st March, 1909. [The figures in *italics* within brackets show the year in which the Byelaws fixing these periods respectively came into force.]*

N.B.—The Statutory Annual Close Season in England and Wales is : For Nets, &c., from 1st September to 1st February ; for Rods, from 2nd November to 1st February.

The Statutory Annual Close Season for Putts and Putchers is from 1st September to 1st May.

The Statutory Weekly Close Season (which does not apply to Rods or to Putts and Putchers) is from noon Saturday to 6 a.m. Monday.

Except as otherwise indicated below, such Close Seasons are in force and the use of the Gaff as auxiliary to rod and line is legal throughout the angling season.

EDEN.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1832.)—In Solway below Old Sandsfield : 10 Sept.—10 Feb. **Rods** :—(1908.)—Except in Eden above Irthing Foot and in Eamont : 16 Nov.—15 Feb. **Weekly** :—(1852.)—In public or common waters, and thence to North British Railway Bridge : 6 a.m. Saturday to midnight Sunday. **Gaff** :—(1884.)—1 July—15 Nov.

DERWENT.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1884.)—15 Sept.—10 Mar. **Rods** :—(1884.)—15 Nov.—10 Mar. **Weekly** :—(1884.)—Noon Saturday to noon Monday. **Gaff** :—(1884.)—1 July—14 Nov.

WEST CUMBERLAND.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1880.)—15 Sept.—31 Mar. **Rods** :—(1882.)—14 Nov.—10 Mar. **Weekly** :—(1905.)—Noon Saturday to noon Monday. **Gaff** :—(1895.)—1 July—13 Nov.

KENT, &c.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1883.)—15 Sept.—31 Mar. **Rods** :—(1907.)—1 Nov.—31 Mar. **Gaff** :—(1874.)—2 June—31 Oct.

LUNE, &c.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1908.)—In Lane and tributaries above the Aqueduct, Lancaster : 12 Aug.—15 July. Rest of District :—1 Sept.—1 Mar. **Rods** :—(1898.)—2 Nov.—1 Mar. **Weekly** :—(1874.)—6 a.m. Saturday to 6 a.m. Monday.

RIBBLE.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1896.)—1 Sept.—1 Mar. **Rods** :—(1896.)—2 Nov.—1 Mar. **Weekly** :—(1874.)—6 a.m. Saturday to 6 a.m. Monday. **Gaff** :—(1874.)—1 May—1 Nov.

DEE.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1889.)—1 Sept.—31 Mar. **Rods** :—(1889.)—2 Nov.—31 Mar. **Weekly** :—(1874.)—Below Chester Weir : Midnight Friday to midnight Sunday. Above Chester Weir : Noon Saturday to noon Monday.

ELWY AND OLWYD.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1874.)—15 Sept.—15 May. **Rods** :—(1874.)—15 Nov.—15 May.

CONWAY.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1905.)—1 Sept.—30 April. **Rods** :—(1905.)—1 Nov.—30 April. **Gaff** :—(1874.)—1 May—31 Oct.

SEIKENT.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1908.)—1 Sept.—1 Mar. **Rods** :—(1903.)—1 Nov.—1 Mar. **Gaff** :—(1874.)—2 Mar.—1 Nov.

DWYFACH.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1878.)—15 Sept.—1 Mar. **Rods** :—(1878.)—15 Nov.—1 Mar.

DOVEY.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1874.)—14 Sept.—30 April. **Rods** :—(1894.)—1 Nov.—30 April. **Weekly** :—(1899.)—6 a.m. Saturday to 6 a.m. Monday. **Gaff** :—(1874.)—31 May—20 Oct.

The alterations made from time to time between the passing of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1873, and the 31st March, 1908, are shown in Appendices VI. and VII. to the Annual Report for 1907 (Cd. 4398).

- AYRON.—**Rods** :—(1883.)—15 Nov.—14 Feb.
- TRIFY.—**Rods** :—(1899.)—1 Nov.—28 Feb.
- CLEDDY.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1874.)—15 Sept.—15 Mar. **Rods** :—(1880.)—1 Nov.—1 Feb.
- TOWY.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1899.)—1 Sept.—1 April. **Rods** :—(1899.)—15 Oct.—1 April. **Weekly** :—(1899.)—6 a.m. Saturday to 6 a.m. Monday. **Gaff** :—(1904.)—2 April—30 Sept.
- OGMORE.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1874.)—15 Sept.—30 April. **Rods** :—(1878.)—15 Nov.—30 April.
- TAFF AND ELY.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1876.)—31 Aug.—30 April. **Rods** :—(1878.)—15 Nov.—30 April. **Weekly** :—(1878.)—Noon Saturday to noon Monday. **Gaff** :—(1876.)—1 June—1 Nov.
- RHYMNEY.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1879.)—1 Sept.—1 April. **Rods** :—(1879.)—2 Nov.—1 April. **Weekly** :—(1879.)—Noon Saturday to noon Monday. **Gaff** :—(1879.)—1 May—1 Nov.
- URK.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1899.)—1 Sept.—1 Mar. **Rods** :—(1899.)—2 Nov.—1 Mar. **Weekly** :—(1878.)—Noon Saturday to noon Monday. **Gaff** :—(1901.)—1 May—1 Oct.
- WYE.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1902.)—Above Bigweir Bridge : 16 Aug.—1 May. Rest of District : 16 Aug.—1 Feb. **Rods** :—(1902.)—16 Oct.—1 Feb. **Weekly** :—(1901.)—Below Redbrook Station : Midnight Friday to midnight Sunday. Above Redbrook Station noon Saturday to noon Monday. **Gaff** :—(1902.)—2 April—1 Oct.
- SEVERN.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1907.)—Above line from the Pill at Bullo to Hope Pill : 16 Aug.—1 Feb. **Rods** :—(1903.)—2 Oct.—1 Feb.
- TAW AND TORRIDGE.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1903.)—14 Sept.—30 April. **Rods** :—(1903.)—1 Nov.—31 Mar. **Weekly** :—(1903.)—Noon Saturday to noon Monday. **Gaff** :—(1903.)—1 June—31 Oct.
- CAMEL.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1898.)—21 Sept.—4 April. **Rods** :—(1885.)—1 Dec.—30 April.
- FOWEY.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1885.)—Below Lostwithiel Bridge : 1 Nov.—4 April. **Rods** :—(1892.)—Between Lostwithiel Bridge and St. Winnow Point : 1 Dec.—30 April. Rest of District : 1 Dec.—4 April.
- TAMAR AND PLYM.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1905.)—1 Sept.—1 Mar. **Rods** :—(1905.)—2 Nov.—1 Mar.
- AVON (DEVON).—**Nets, &c.** :—(1889.)—In the Erme : 30 Sept.—4 April. Rest of District : 30 Sept.—1 May. **Rods** :—(1889.)—In the Erme : 30 Nov.—4 April. Rest of District : 30 Nov.—1 May.
- DART.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1904.)—17 Aug.—last day Feb. **Rods** :—(1904.)—1 Oct.—last day Feb. **Weekly** :—(1894.)—6 a.m. Saturday to 6 a.m. Monday. **Gaff** :—(1904.)—1 April—30 Sept.
- TRIGN.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1877.)—1 Sept.—2 Mar. **Weekly** :—(1875.)—6 a.m. Saturday to 6 a.m. Monday. **Gaff** :—(1891.)—1 May—1 Sept.
- EXE.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1901.)—Above line drawn from Woodbury Road Station through the Perch at Turf and thence to west bank of Exe : 1 Sept.—15 April. Rest of District : 1 Sept.—1 Mar. **Rods** :—(1898.)—20 Oct.—1 Mar. **Gaff** :—(1898.)—15 Mar.—30 Sept.
- AXE.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1874.)—20 Sept.—30 April. **Rods** :—(1874.)—20 Nov.—30 April.
- HAMPSHIRE RIVERS.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1907.)—Westward of line drawn N. & S. through the Needles : 31 July—1 Feb. (1909.)—Rest of District : 1 Sept.—14 Feb. **Rods** :—(1907.)—Westward of line drawn N. & S. through the Needles : 2 Oct.—1 Feb. (1909.)—Rest of District : 16 Oct.—1 Feb. **Weekly** :—(1907.)—Except in Wood Mill Pool : Noon Saturday to noon Monday. In Wood Mill Pool : 6 a.m. Saturday to 6 a.m. Monday.
- ADUR.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1898.)—1 Sept.—2 Feb. **Rods** :—(1898.)—1 Oct.—2 Feb.

- OUSE (SUSSEX).—**Nets, &c.** :—(1877.)—1 Sept.—1 April. **Rods** :—(1877.)—1 Nov.—1 April. **Weekly** :—(1877.)—6 a.m. Saturday to 6 a.m. Monday.
- ROTHER.—**Weekly** :—(1878.)—6 a.m. Saturday to 6 a.m. Monday.
- STOUR (KENT).—**Nets, &c.** :—(1867.)—(Order of Secretary of State).—1 Sept.—1 May. **Rods** :—(1867.)—(Order of Secretary of State).—2 Nov.—1 May.
- YORKSHIRE.—**Rods** :—(1877.)—16 Nov.—last day Feb. **Gaff** :—(1875.)—1 May—1 Nov.
- ESK (YORKS).—**Weekly** :—(1891.)—6 a.m. Saturday to 6 a.m. Monday.
- TEES.—**Weekly** :—(1903.)—9 a.m. Saturday to 9 a.m. Monday.
- WEAR.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1904.)—In Wear and tributaries above South Biddick or Biddick Ford : 1 Sept.—1 Mar. **Rods** :—(1904.)—In Wear and tributaries above South Biddick or Biddick Ford : 2 Nov.—1 Mar.
- COQUET.—**Nets, &c.** :—(1874.)—15 Sept.—25 Mar. **Rods** :—(1884.)—1 Nov.—31 Jan. **Gaff** :—(1908.)—1 May—30 Sept.

APPENDIX VI.

ABSTRACT of BYE-LAWS for the REGULATION of NETTING in force on the 31st MARCH, 1909, with the DATE of coming into force.*

- (a.) KINDS OF NETS and the MANNER OF USING the same (not being fixed engines) for taking Salmon; (b.) MINIMUM MESH OF NETS for Salmon; (c.) PROHIBITION OF NETTING NEAR THE MOUTHS OF RIVERS (not being a Several Fishery); (d.) date of any Bye-law PROHIBITING THE USE AT NIGHT OF NETS IN INLAND WATERS, except a Landing Net or a Net for taking Eels; and (e.) REGULATION OF NETS used for FISH OTHER THAN SALMON in annual and weekly close seasons.
-

N.B.—Where no Bye-law on the subject is in force the minimum size of mesh of nets for Salmon is two inches.

The Bye-laws under head (e) do not apply to any part of the district where there is a several right of fishery, or to any part of the river where the breadth at low water is greater than six miles.

Eden District.

- (a) :—1891.—Draft or hang nets not to be used above Solway Viaduct or below line drawn from Sark Foot to Burgh Marsh Point. 1898.—Hang nets prohibited below the Viaduct as far as a line drawn half a mile west of Annan Waterfoot Lighthouse. 1901.—Draft or hang nets not to be used in the Water above bridge at Abbey Junction, or in the Wampool above Solway Junction Railway Bridge.
- (b) :—1875.—1½ in. (15 May—15 July.)

Derwent District.

- (d) :—1901.

* The alterations made from time to time in (a) to (d) prior to the 31st March, 1908, are shown in Appendix VIII. to the Annual Report for 1907 (Cd. 4393).

West Cumberland District.

- (c) :—**1882.**—Near mouth of River Esk within the area enclosed (1) by an imaginary line extending S. coastwise across the River Esk, from a black post at high-water mark on Drigg Point to a white post on the S. side of the river at high-water mark in the parish of Bootle, the distance between the said posts being 1,550 yards or thereabouts: (2) by a line drawn in a S.W. direction from the last-mentioned post to a black buoy distant 1,300 yards; (3) by a line drawn from the said black post to a red buoy distant 1,100 yards; and (4) by a line connecting the two buoys. **1891.**—Within the following straight lines: (1) true S.W. for 1,500 yards from the lamp post on the up platform, distant 118 ft. from the doorstep of the booking office at Sellafield Railway Station; (2) true S.W. for 1,500 yards from the 12th mile post on the railway from Whitehaven; (3) joining the extremities of such lines.
- (d) :—**1905.**

Kent, &c., District.

- (c) :—**1898.**—From mouth of River Lickle to N. side of Foxfield Viaduct.
- (d) :—**1874.**

Lune, &c., District.

- (d) :—**1899.**

Ribble District.

- (a) :—**1874.**—Draft or drift nets and haug nets, consisting of a single sheet, without armour and kept in motion. Haug nets not exceeding 6 yards in length.

Dee District.

- (a) :—**1878.**—Draft, trammel and coracle nets of legal construction and not exceeding 200, 100, and 16 yards in length, respectively. Trammel nets to be used only below a line drawn from Burton Point to Rockcliff Hall, and to consist of not more than three walls placed together, the mesh of centre net being not less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and of the outer nets not less than 11 inches. **1889.**—Two trammel nets not to be used within 300 yards of each other.
- (d) :—**1874.**
- (c) :—**1904.**—Between sunset and sunrise during the annual close season, and during the whole of the weekly close season no net to be used above a line drawn from Burton Point to Rockcliff Hall, or below the Weir or Causeway across the Dee in Chester.

Elwy and Clwyd District.

- (d) :—**1874.**

Selent District.

- (d) :—**1886.**
- (c) :—**1903.**—During the weekly and annual close seasons no net except trawl nets to be used in the Menai Straits between Abermenai and Garth Points.

Dovey District.

- (b) :—**1899.**— $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. (above Glandovey Railway Bridge).
- (c) :—**1884.**—At mouth of Yscethin and on foreshore within 300 yards on Harlech side and 150 yards on Barmouth side. **1887.**—In Dyssany below the Railway Bridge and within 300 yards of the mouth.

Ayron District.

- (a) :—1893.—Draft, hang and pole nets. Draft or hang nets not to exceed 200 yards in length and 4 yards in depth, and not to be used in area between a certain line drawn at the mouth of the River and the Lower Bridge at Aberayron.
- (b) :—1883.—1½ in.
- (d) :—1883.

Teify District.

- (a) :—1880.—Draft, coracle, and pole nets. Draft nets to be shot in a semi-circle, drawn in to bank from which they started, and kept always in motion. 1885.—Coracles only to be used by one man at each end of the net, the net between them, fishing down stream. No net to be reversed. 1895.—No draft net exceeding 200 yards in length to be used in the Teify, its estuary, or on sea shore, or in sea between Cardigan Island and Cemmaes Head. 1895.—No coracle net to be used in combination or connection with any other coracle net or nets, or so that salmon shall be wilfully scared or driven into net.
- (b) :—1881.—1½ in.

Cleddy District.

- (b) :—1874.—1½ in.
- (d) :—1874.

Towy District.

- (a) :—1905.—Draft or seine, coracle, wade, and heave, haaf or lamp nets. Coracle nets only to be used above a line across the Towy, true north from a signal post on Great Western Railway, 241½ miles from London, and draft or seine nets only between that line and another line across the river from St. Ishmael's Church to Wharley Point.
- (b) :—1885.—1½ in.
- (d) :—1904.—(Above confluence of Whitemill Brook with Towy only.)

Ogmore District.

- (a) :—1874.—Draft nets not exceeding 200 yards.
- (b) :—1874.—1½ in.
- (d) :—1874.

Taff and Ely District.

- (a) :—1876.—Draft nets not exceeding 200 yards.
- (d) :—1876.

Rhymney District.

- (a) :—1879.—Trammel nets floated by lines and corks at the top and drawn in by such lines.
- (b) :—1879.—1½ in.
- (d) :—1879.

Usk District.

- (a) :—1884.—Except in the River Ebbw and its tributaries above the railway bridge at Maesglais, beating nets, not exceeding 80 yards, armed on one or both sides, used by extending the net from a point on one bank to another point on the same bank, and by driving therein the fish thereby enclosed.
- (b) :—1874.—1½ in.
- (d) :—1873.

Wye District.

(a) :—**1875.**—Beating nets as above in Usk bye-law of 1884.

1902.—Below Bigswear Bridge, draft or seine nets, beating nets and lave nets. Draft or seine nets to be unarmoured, not more than 200 yards in length and 8 yards in depth when wet, and to be used by holding one end on the shore or bank and shooting the net from a boat starting from and returning without delay to the same shore or bank and then drawing the net in. Each net to be fully drawn in and landed at least 20 minutes before another is shot or begun to be shot within 100 yards from any point along the line of shot of the first net. Beating nets to be made with a linner or inner net armed on one or both sides and not to exceed 40 yards in length and 8 yards in depth when wet. To be used by extending the same from a point at or near one bank to another point at or near the same bank and by driving therein the fish which may have been so enclosed. Lave nets to be suspended so as to form a bag or purse from a wooden frame consisting of a pole or handstaff or handle with two moveable arms, each not more than 5 feet 6 inches in length and having not more than 7 feet 6 inches between their outer extremities when fully extended. Each net to be used by one person only, who shall place or hold it in the water and lift or scoop the fish that may be enclosed therein. No lave net to be used within less than 6 yards from another net. **1907.**—In rest of district, until 16th August, 1909, beating nets constructed and used as above.

(b) :—**1902.**—2½ in.

(d) :—**1902.**

(e) :—**1902.**—Between 6 p.m. on Saturday and 6 a.m. on Monday no net to be used for the taking of shrimps below Bigswear Bridge.

Severn District.

(a) :—**1903.**—No nets except draft nets (defined as all nets worked by more than one person at any time and drawn on to the bank to secure the fish), hush nets (defined as all nets worked by more than one person at any time and not drawn on to the bank to secure the fish), lave nets and landing nets used as auxiliary to angling with rod and line. Bush nets not to exceed 40 yards in length, and 8 yards in depth, and to be used by extending the net from a point at or near one bank of the river to another point at or near the same bank, and by driving therein any fish which may have been thereby enclosed. Such net shall not be in the water for more than 30 minutes at one time. Below Mountford Bridge and above Gloucester Bridge, draft nets to be used only by attaching each end of the net to a boat and drawing the net until the end of the draft is reached, and then drawing the net on to the land or into one of the boats; or by shooting the net from a boat which shall start from the bank of the river, and proceed across, or partly across, the river, and return to the bank from which it started. Each draft net to be fully drawn in and landed at least 20 minutes before another net is shot or begun to be shot within 100 yards from the point at which the first net is shot or begun to be shot. No draft net to be used in the same draft within 20 minutes after a net has been landed.

(d) :—**1903.**—(Except in Severn below Lincombe Weir.)

(e) :—**1903.**—During the annual and weekly close seasons all lampen wheels set on or within 20 yards of any weir to be cross-prowed. Between sunset on Saturday and 6 a.m. on Monday during the annual and weekly close seasons no nets to be used for taking shrimps in the estuary of the Severn.

Taw and Torridge District.

(a) :—**1903.**—Above a line drawn from the upper light at Braunton through the lifeboat house on Braunton Burrows to a point true North of the Bar Bnoy, thence true South until it intersects a line drawn straight from the said light through the building formerly used and now known as the lifeboat house, on Northam Burrows, and thence in a north-easterly

direction along such last mentioned line until it reaches the shore at Northam Burrows, draft or seine nets only, unarmoured, consisting of a single sheet or wall of netting, not more than 200 yards in length and 8 in depth. To be used by holding one end of the net on the shore or bank and by shooting the net from a boat starting from and returning without delay to the same shore or bank and then drawing the net ashore.

(d) :—1874.

Camel District.

(b) :—1893.—1½ in.

(c) :—1899.—At confluence of Slades River with River Camel, between a line across the latter at Egloskayle and (a) the railway bridge across the Camel at Grogley, and (b) the bridge across Slades River at Hingham Mill.

(d) :—1885.

Fowey District.

(a) :—1885.—Draft nets only. 1892.—Unarmoured bagg nets of 1½ in. mesh also allowed in portion of district seaward of low water mark, and comprised in Cornwall sea fisheries district.

(b) :—1892.—1½ in. (in portion seaward of low water mark, and comprised in Cornwall sea fisheries district).

(c) :—1900.—Between a line drawn across the Fowey true East from a post on the right bank, about 15 yards south of southern extremity of the bridge across the Red or Milltown River on the Lostwithiel and Fowey Railway, and a line drawn across the Fowey along the upper side of Lostwithiel Bridge.

(d) :—1878.

Tamar and Plym District.

(a) :—1887.—Draft or seine nets only, not exceeding 200 yards, consisting of a single sheet without armour or walling, and not to be fixed.

(b) :—1878.—2 in., but in Plym only, 1½ in.

Avon (Devon) District.

(b) :—1889.—In tidal waters of Erme, 1½ in. 1893.—In Avon, below a line from New Quay to Annemouth Creek, 1½ in.

(d) :—1874.

Dart District.

(a) :—1904.—Draft or seine nets only, unarmoured, consisting of a single sheet or wall of netting, not more than 200 yards in length and 9 in depth. To be used by holding one end of the net on the shore or bank and by shooting the net from a boat starting from and returning without delay to the same shore or bank and then drawing the net ashore or into the boat.

(c) :—1904.—During the annual or weekly close season no nets to be used in the Dart above a line drawn from Dancannon to Ashpington Point, or in the River Harbourn above a line drawn from Bickford Point to Cornworthy Weir. During the weekly close season no draft or seine net to be used above a line drawn from the lighthouse at Teignmouth to Lord Clifford's house at Shaldon. During the annual close season no draft or seine net to be used (1) above the lower side of the Teignmouth and Shaldon Bridge; or (2) within a line drawn from the right bank of the river Teign along the lower side of the said bridge until it reaches the centre of the deepest channel of the river, thence downward along such channel until it reaches a line drawn from the railway signal post near the Club Grounds at Bitton to the Tower in Colonel Graham's grounds, and thence along such line to the right bank of the river; or (3)

within a line drawn from the extremity of the lowest jetty at Shaldon, in the direction of the lighthouse at Teignmouth until it reaches the centre of the deepest channel of the river, thence downward along such channel until it reaches a line drawn from such lighthouse to Lord Clifford's house at Shaldon, thence along such line to the right bank of the river.

Teign District.

- (a) :—1902.—Above Shaldon bridge, draft or seine nets only. Such nets to be shot from a boat which shall start from the bank and proceed across, or partly across, the river, and return to the bank without stoppage or delay. Each net to be fully drawn in and landed at least 10 minutes before another net is shot or begun to be shot within 100 yards from the point at which the first net is shot or begun to be shot.
- (d) :—1875.

Exe District.

- (d) :—1879.
- (e) :—1886.—No nets to be used in the annual close season above a line drawn from the Perch at Turf on one side of the river Exe, to Woodbury Road Station on the other side, nor in the weekly close season above a line drawn from Starcross Pier to Courtlands Beach Gate.

Axe District.

- (a) :—1874.—Draft or seine nets only, with or without armour.
- (b) :—1874.—1½ in.
- (d) :—1874.

Hampshire Rivers District.

- (a) :—1907.—Draft or seine nets only, unarmoured, consisting of a single sheet or wall of netting, not more than 200 yards in length and 8 in depth. To be used by holding one end of the net on the shore or bank and by shooting the net from a boat starting from and returning without delay to the same shore or bank and then drawing the net ashore.
- (c) :—1909.—In the estuary of the Lymington, between the Causeway at Lymington and a line from the mouth of the hurny in the eastern face of the sea wall of John William Lance's marsh to the northernmost end of the gates leading to Admiral Neale's monument; and in the estuary of the Keyhaven or Avonwater, north of a line from the south-east corner of the landing stage at Keyhaven to the south-west corner of Pennington Marsh.
- (d) :—1907.
- (e) :—1909.—During the weekly close season no nets to be used in Avon and Stour, above a line across the Estuary, from the south-east corner of Beacon Lodge to the seaward end of Long Rocks. During annual and weekly close seasons no nets to be used in Itchen, above Colden Bridge; in Test and Fletch or Bartley Water, above their junction at Horsehead Boom; in Hamble, above Bursledon Bridge; in Lymington, above line drawn straight from Pittsdeep Coast-Guard Station in a south-west direction to "Jack-in-the-Basket" and thence in a north-west direction to south-east corner of Normandy Farm Sea-wall.

Adur District.

- (b) :—1898.—2½ in.
- (c) :—1898.—At mouth of Adur within a distance of 440 yards from the seaward extremities of the E. and W. piers at Shoreham.
- (d) :—1898.

Ouse (Sussex) District.

- (d) :—1877.
- (e) :—1877.—During the annual and weekly close seasons nets not to be used above Southease Bridge with a mesh smaller than that used for salmon.

Cuckmere District.

- (d) :—1895.

Rother District.

- (d) :—1876.

Trent District.

- (d) :—1893.

Yorkshire District.

- (a) :—1887.—Drift nets, draft or seine nets not being armoured, have nets (including click, hand, bow, and stand nets). Drift and have nets not to be used except in tidal waters. Each description of net to be used only in the manner in which such net was ordinarily used within the district at the time of the making of this bye-law. Draft or seine nets not to exceed 400 yards in length and to be shot from a coble or boat from a point on the shore or bank of the river to another point on the same shore or bank. Drift nets to be fastened to a boat and allowed to drift or float with the tide. 1897.—Drift, draft or seine, and have nets (including click, hand, bow, and stand nets), all unarmoured. Method of using same and length of draft or seine nets to be as laid down in bye-laws of 1887, above.

- (d) :—1875.

Esak (Yorks) District.

- (c) :—1895.—At Whitby within the area enclosed by the following lines :—A line from the flagstaff on the West Cliff, near the Royal Hotel, to the most easterly corner of the East Pier, and lines drawn true North from those points until they intersect a line drawn true E. and W., through a point distant 200 yards true North from the seaward extremity of the West Pier.

Tees District.

- (a) :—1893.—Draft or hang nets only.
(e) :—1888.—No nets to be used during weekly close season below Stockton Bridge.

Wear District.

- (e) :—1902.—Within the area enclosed by a line drawn from the seaward extremity of the N.E. pier at the S. outlet from the Hudson Dock, Sunderland, true North to a point about 900 yards true East of the seaward extremity of Holey Rock or Abh's Point, near Roker, thence true West to the seaward extremity of the rock, thence true S. to a point true W. of the seaward extremity of the N.E. pier, and thence true East to where it began.

Tyne District.

- (b) :—1891.—1½ in. (from 1st July to 31st August).
(c) :—1875.—Within the area enclosed by a line drawn from Sharpness Point to the Trinity buoy coloured red near the end of the north pier at the mouth of the River Tyne, thence to the Trinity buoy coloured black near the end of the south pier at the mouth of the River Tyne, and thence to the Trow rocks.

Coquet District.

- (a) :—1874.—Draft or hang nets only, used with or without a boat by not more than three men.
(b) :—1874.—1½ in.
(d) :—1874.

APPENDIX VII.

ANNUAL CLOSE SEASON FOR TROUT AND CHAR.

LIST showing the ANNUAL CLOSE SEASON for TROUT and CHAR in each Fishery District on the 31st March, 1909.

N.B.—The Statutory Annual Close Season for Trout and Char is from 2nd October to 1st February and, except as otherwise indicated below, this Close Season is in force.

EDEN.—Trout:—Nets, 2nd Sept. to last day Feb.; Rods, 2nd Oct. to last day Feb.

DERWENT.—15th Sept. to 10th Mar. Char in Crummock and Buttermere, 1st Nov. to 30th June.

WEST CUMBERLAND.—2nd Sept. to 10th Mar.

KENT, &c.—Duddon and tributaries above Foxhill Viaduct, 2nd Oct. to 1st April. Bela and tributaries, 16th Sept. to 15th Feb. Rest of district, 2nd Oct. to 3rd Mar.

LUNE, &c.—Trout:—2nd Oct. to 1st Mar.

RIBBLE.—2nd Oct. to 1st Mar.

DEE.—Trout:—Rods, 14th Oct. to 14th Feb.

ELWY AND CLWYD.—2nd Oct. to 28th Feb.

CONWAY.—Trout:—1st Oct. to last day Feb.

SEIONT.—Trout:—In Co. Carnarvon, 15th Sept. to 1st Mar. Rest of district, 15th Sept. to 13th Feb. Char:—22nd Oct. to 1st Mar.

AYRON.—Trout:—1st Oct. to 15th Mar.

TEIFY.—Trout:—1st Oct. to 28th Feb.

CLEDDEY.—Trout:—29th Sept. to 1st Mar.

TOWY.—In Towy, between Great Western Railway bridge, below Carmarthen, and confluence with Gwili, 2nd Oct. to 30th June. Rest of district, 2nd Oct. to 1st Mar.

OGMORE.—Trout:—30th Sept. to last day Feb.

TAFF AND ELY.—Trout:—20th Sept. to 1st Feb.

RHYMNEY.—Trout:—2nd Oct. to 1st Mar.

USK.—2nd Sept. to 14th Feb.

WYE.—Trout:—2nd Oct. to 14th Feb.

SEVERN.—Trout:—2nd Oct. to 1st Mar.

TAW AND TORRIDGE.—Trout:—1st Oct. to last day Feb.

CAMEL.—1st Oct. to 15th Mar.

POWSEY.—Between Lostwithiel Bridge and a line drawn from North end of Penquite Wood to St. Winnow Point, 1st Oct. to 30th April. Rest of district, 1st Oct. to 15th Mar.

TAMAR AND PLYM.—2nd Oct. to 1st Mar.

AVON (Deyon).—Trout:—1st Oct. to last day Feb.

DART.—Trout:—1st Oct. to last day Feb.

TEIGN.—Trout:—1st Oct. to 2nd Mar.

EXE.—Trout:—15th Sept. to last day Feb.

HAMP&HIRE RIVERS.—In Avon and tributaries above Bickton Mill, 15th Oct. to 15th April.

- ADUR.—1st Oct. to 31st Mar.
 CUCKMERE.—1st Oct. to 31st Mar.
 ROTHER.—1st Oct. to 31st Mar.
 SUFFOLK AND ESSEX.—Trout :—2nd Oct. to 10th April.
 NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK.—Trout :—Nets, 10th Sept. to 25th Jan.
 OUSE AND NENE.—Trout :—2nd Oct. to 31st Mar.
 YORKSHIRE.—2nd Oct. to 15th Mar.
 ESK (Yorks.).—Trout :—1st Oct. to 15th Mar.
 TEES.—Trout :—1st Oct. to 15th Mar.
 WEAR.—2nd Oct. to 1st Mar.
 TYNE.—1st Oct. to 21st Mar.
 COQUET.—Trout :—Rods, 1st Nov. to 3rd Mar.

APPENDIX VIII.

MAINTENANCE OF GRATINGS AND MARKING OF NETS AND BOATS.

- (1.)—PERIODS during which GRATINGS are required to be placed by BYELAWS in force on the 31st March, 1909.

- DERWENT.—From 1st Dec. to 30th June across head races; from 1st Mar. to 31st Dec. across tail races.
 LUNE &c.—From 1st Jan. to 31st Dec. across head races; from 1st Mar. to 30th Sept. across tail races.
 ELWY AND CLWYD.—From 1st Jan. to 1st June across head races; from 1st July to 1st Dec. across tail races.
 USK.—The grating in the mill leat near Millbrook Weir in the Groyney, from 15th Nov. to 15th Feb. inclusive. Other gratings across head races in part of district above Lock Bridge, near Brecon, from 15th Nov. to 31st Mar. Below the said Bridge, from 1st Dec. to 15th May.
 WYE.—All the year round across head races and tail races.
 SEVERN.—From 1st Jan. to 1st June across head races. From 1st Sept. to 31st Dec. across tail races. Where approved gratings are required to be placed across any artificial channel they shall be placed during the whole year. Provided that if two forms of grating are approved, the grating with the widest aperture between the bars shall be placed between the 15th Sept. and the 25th Dec. both inclusive, and the grating with the narrowest aperture shall be placed between the 26th Dec. and the 14th Sept. following, both inclusive.
 CAMEL.—From 1st Jan. to 31st May across head races; from 1st June to 31st Dec. across tail races.
 FOWEY.—All the year round across head races and tail races.
 TEIGN.—From 1st Jan. to 30th June across head races; from 1st May to 31st Oct. across tail races.
 YORKSHIRE.—From 1st Jan. to 1st June across head races; from 1st Sept. to 31st Jan. across tail races.
 WEAR.—From 1st Jan. to 1st June across head races; from 1st June to 1st Dec. across tail races.

(2.)—DISTRICTS in which BYELAWS were in force on the 31st March, 1909, determining the MARKS, LABELS or NUMBERS to be attached to LICENSED NETS, BOATS, &c. used in fishing :—

EDEN.	RHYMEY.	HAMPSHIRE RIVERS.
DERWENT.	USE.	ADUR.
WEST CUMBERLAND.	WYE.	OUSE (SUSSEX).
KENT, &c.	SEVERN.	CUCKMERE.
LUNE, &c.	AVON, BRUE, &c.	ROTHER.
RIBBLE.	TAW AND TORRIDGE.	YORKSHIRE.
DEE.	CAMBL.	ESK (YORKS).
ELWY AND CLWYD.	POWEY.	TEES.
SEIONT.	AVON (DEVON).	WEAR.
TRIFY.	DART.	TYNE.
CLEDDY.	TEIGN.	COQUET.
TOWY.	AXE.	

APPENDIX IX.

FRESHWATER FISH.—BYE-LAWS.

ABSTRACT of BYE-LAWS under the FRESHWATER FISHERIES ACT, 1884, in force on the 31ST MARCH, 1909.

N.B.—These Bye-laws do not apply to fixed nets for taking eels, or to a landing net used as auxiliary to angling with a rod and line.

The Bye-laws prescribing a minimum mesh of nets for taking freshwater fish do not apply to casting or dip nets lawfully used for catching fish for bait. The measurement is to be made from knot to knot, when the net is wet.

DERWENT.—Mesh, 1 inch (except landing nets).

KENT, &c.—All modes or instruments prohibited, except set nets for pike, night lines for taking eels, draft nets, angling with rod and line, fishing for char with the plumb line, fishing with a hand line for perch, setting trimmers for pike, using a landing net as auxiliary to fishing or taking fish with any lawful instrument not being a draft net, and using a dip net for catching bait.

The length, size, and description of nets, except dip nets for catching bait, and landing nets, that may be lawfully used, and the manner of using the same are as follows :—

- (a.) A floating draft net, which is a draft net buoyed so that the head-rope of the net will float on the surface of the water, shall not exceed ninety yards in length measured along the head-rope, and nine yards in depth from the deepest part of the net to the centre of the head-rope; and the ropes at either end of the net used in working the same shall, respectively, not exceed fifty fathoms in length.
- (b.) A sunken draft net shall not exceed thirty-five yards in length measured along the head-rope, and six yards in depth from the deepest parts of the net to the centre of the head-rope; and the ropes at either end of the net used in working the same shall, respectively, not exceed one hundred and fifty fathoms in length.
- (c.) All draft nets shall be used by retaining one end of the net or one end of the hauling rope attached thereto on the shore, and from that point shooting the net into the water as far, but no farther, than the hauling-rope so attached will admit of, the hauling-rope attached to the other end of the net being used to haul the net after being shot to the shore, or to a boat fixed to the shore, such fixed boat to be not more than five yards from the shore.

KENT, &c.—*cont.*

- (d.) A dip net for catching bait shall be a circular net of not more than thirteen feet in circumference, and the bag of such net shall not be more than two feet in depth from the outside of the circumference of the net.

Mesh, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

LUNE, &c.—All modes or instruments prohibited except rod and line.

RIBBLE.—Mesh, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

TOWY, &c.—The use of any instrument or mode of fishing other than angling with rod and line is prohibited.

USK.—All modes or instruments prohibited except rod and line, night lines, and beating nets. Beating nets to be shot from one point on the bank to another point on the same bank, and the fish to be driven into the nets with poles; nets to be completely taken out of the water within 15 minutes after commencement of shot.

Mesh, 1 inch.

WYE.—All modes or instruments prohibited except rod and line; casting net or dip net, lawfully used for taking bait; draft or seine net, trammel net and cleeching net for the purpose of destroying freshwater fish other than trout or grayling; night lines not exceeding 50 yards in length and having not more than 20 hooks.

Mesh, 1 inch.

[These bye-laws do not apply to the Rivers Lugg and Dore and their tributaries.]

SEVERN.—In the Severn between Lincombe and Tewkesbury Weirs and in the River Avon all modes or instruments prohibited except rod and line, a weir or eel trap, and a wheel or basket for taking eels or lampreys.

In Severn district (except River Severn below Lincombe Weir and except River Avon) all instruments prohibited except draft nets, bush or beating nets, bait nets, weir or eel traps, and night or bank lines.

Nets other than casting or dip nets lawfully used for catching bait not to exceed 40 yards in length and 3 yards in depth.

Bush nets to be used only by extending same from a point at or near one bank of the river to a point at or near the same bank, and by driving therein any fish which may have been thereby enclosed; such net not to be in the water for more than 30 minutes at one time.

Bait nets in the River Severn not to be of greater width or depth than 18 inches.

No night or bank line to be of greater length than 50 yards or to have more than 20 hooks.

[It is provided that none of these bye-laws shall prohibit the taking of fish other than salmon by lawful means in tributaries of the Severn and transferring them from one water to another for the *bona fide* purpose of stocking waters in the Severn Fishery District.]

AVON, BRUE, &c.—The following modes of fishing are prohibited:—

Lading or hauling out part of a brook or water-course, tickling, groping, snaring, snatching, and shooting.

Mesh, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

TAW AND TORRIDGE.—All modes or instruments of fishing, except rod and line, prohibited within the following parts of the district, viz.:—

(1) So much of the River Taw as lies above the Bridge on the London and South Western Railway, across the said River between South Molton Road and Portsmouth Arms Stations, together with all tributaries of said river flowing into it above such bridge; (2) the River Mole and its tributaries; and (3) so much of the River Torridge as lies above the bridge across the said river on the high road between Hatherleigh and Iddesleigh, together with all tributaries of the said river flowing into it above such bridge.

[This bye-law does not apply to (1) any pond which is not fed by a tributary stream and the entrance to which from any river is provided with an approved grating; or any hatching, breeding or rearing place for salmon or trout.]

Cont.

TAW AND TORRIDGE—cont.

The following modes of fishing are prohibited throughout the district :—
Lading or baling out a hole in a stream, brook, or watercourse, tickling or groping, snatching, snaring, and shooting.

CAMEL.—Catching or attempting to catch trout by means of night lines, or by baling or lading out pools or holes in any river, or by tickling or groping, is prohibited.

FOWEY.—All modes or instruments of fishing for trout except rod and line are prohibited.

EXE.—All modes or instruments of fishing for freshwater fish except rod and line are prohibited.

AXE.—All modes or instruments of fishing for freshwater fish except rod and line are prohibited.

HAMPSHIRE RIVERS.—In the Avon and tributaries above Bickton Mill stop nets to be used only in connection with a drag or draft net.

ADUR.—The following modes or instruments of fishing are prohibited :—

(a.) Lading or baling out a hole in a brook, tickling or groping, snaring, shooting, strolling.

(b.) Spear (except for taking eels), night line, cross line, setting rod and line, snare or trimmer, snatch.

(c.) Net of any kind, other than a casting or dip net lawfully used for catching fish for bait.

CUCKMERE.—The following modes or instruments of fishing are prohibited :—

(a.) Lading or baling out a hole in a brook, tickling or groping, snaring, snatching, shooting, setting rod and line.

(b.) Spear (except for taking eels), night line, cross line, snare, snatch.

(c.) Net of any kind, other than a casting or dip net lawfully used for catching fish for bait.

ROTHER.—All modes or instruments prohibited except a rod and line, a casting or dip net lawfully used for taking bait, and a spear for eels; provided that between the 15th July and the 1st September in any year nothing in the foregoing shall apply to the Rother between Scot's Float and Knelle's Dam, or to Potman's Creek below Potman's Bridge.

Mesh, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

SUFFOLK AND ESSEX.—The following modes or instruments of fishing are prohibited :—

(a.) Lading or baling out a hole in a brook or watercourse, tickling or groping, snaring, spearing, snatching, shooting, trailing, dragging or ottering, live or dead gorge baiting.

(b.) Trimmer, ligger, dead line, night line, spear, snatch, snare, otter.

(c.) Any net other than a cast net, not exceeding 20 feet in circumference, or a dip net of a diameter not exceeding 30 inches, lawfully used for catching fish for bait; or hoop or bow net having a mesh of not less than two inches from knot to knot measured when wet.

[These bye-laws do not apply to any wild duck decoy for the time being used as such, or any pond used in connection therewith.]

NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK.—No snare, snatch-wire, ligger, gun, spear (except an eel-spear), or any net to be used for the purpose of taking freshwater fish in any dyke communicating with any navigable river within the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, within a distance of a quarter of a mile from such river, or in that portion of the River Waveney which lies below Bungay Bridge.

[This bye-law does not apply to that part of the county of Suffolk which was included in the Stour (Suffolk and Essex) Fishery District, as formed under the Provisions of Part III. of the Fisheries Act, 1891.]

OUSE AND NENE.—The use of any net is prohibited, except casting nets used for taking fish for bait, and not exceeding 33 feet in circumference, and not having a pocket more than 6 inches in depth.

The use of any spear, except a spear used only for the purpose of taking eels, or of any trimmer, ligger, dead line, night line, snatch, snare, or other like instrument, is prohibited. Provided that nothing in this bye-law contained shall be held to forbid the use of a rod with a line to which more than one hook is attached.

[These bye-laws do not apply to certain specified parts of the district.]

WELLAND.—No net to be used other than casting or dip nets lawfully used for catching fish for bait.

The following modes of fishing are prohibited:—

Lading or haling out a hole in a brook, tickling or groping, snaring, snatching, spearing, shooting, and setting night lines.

WITHAM.—In certain specified parts of the district no net shall be used for catching freshwater fish other than dip or cast nets lawfully used for catching fish for bait, fixed nets for taking eels, or landing nets used as auxiliary to angling with a rod and line, save and except by the special written orders of the Board of Conservators for the purpose of improving the fishery of the district; and the following modes of fishing are prohibited, namely, lading or haling out a hole in a brook, tickling or groping, snaring, snatching, shooting, spearing or stanging, trailing, dragging or ottering, and setting night lines or trimmers.

TRENT.—No nets except cast nets and dip nets to be used [in certain parts of the district] except by owners of the fishery or other persons by them authorised in writing. No net to be used [in any part of the district] within 50 yards above or below any dam.

The following modes of fishing are prohibited:—

(a.) Lading or haling out a hole in a brook, tickling or groping (except by owners of the fishery or other persons by them authorised in writing), snaring, snatching, and shooting [this applies to certain parts of the district only].

(b.) Spear (except a spear used solely for the purpose of taking eels), night line, setting rod and line, cross line, wire, snare, or snatch.

YORKSHIRE.—In the River Hull below Foston Mill, the West Beck below Corpeo Landing, the Driffield Canal, the Ure below Oxclose, the Ouse, the Swale below Morton Bridge, the Nidd below Cattal Bridge, the Wharfe below Boston Spa, the Wiska, the Posa, and the Derwent below Howe Bridge, all modes or instruments prohibited except rod and line.

WEAR.—All nets prohibited.

APPENDIX X.

CLOSE SEASON FOR FRESHWATER FISH. (EXEMPTIONS.)

LIST of the FISHERY DISTRICTS which have been EXEMPTED wholly or in part, under the 11th section (sub-section 7) of the FRESHWATER FISHERIES ACT, 1878, from the provisions of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd sub-sections of that section, which provide a close time for "freshwater fish" from 15th March to 15th June; and the KINDS OF "FRESHWATER FISH" to which the EXEMPTION extends (made up to the 31st MARCH, 1909).

AVON (DEVON).—The whole District; all kinds.

HAMPSHIRE RIVER.—The original area of the Avon and Stour District; all kinds.

AXE.—The whole District; all kinds.

EDEN.—The whole District; all kinds.

KENT &c.—The whole District; pike.

* NOTE.—For the purposes of the section of the Act above referred to, "freshwater fish" are defined to include all fish (other than pollan, trout and char) which live in fresh water, and do not migrate to and from the open sea. Section 1 of the Act 49 Vict. c. 2 declares that the term "freshwater fish" as thus used "does not include eels, provided that nothing herein contained shall be deemed to authorize angling for eels during the close season mentioned" above.

SEVERN.—The whole District; pike.

The whole District, except the Severn below the mouth of the Verniew, in the counties of Salop, Stafford, Worcester, and Gloucester, and except so much of the Avon as flows through Worcestershire and Gloucestershire; all, except grayling.

TOWY.—The whole District; all kinds.

USK.—The whole District; eels.

WYE.—The whole District; all kinds.

APPENDIX XI.

NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK FISHERIES.—BYE-LAWS.

ABSTRACT of BYE-LAWS under the NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK FISHERIES ACT, 1877, in force on the 31ST MARCH, 1909, in the WATERS to which that ACT applies.

N.B.—These bye-laws do not apply to any other than freshwater fish, nor (except as specified with respect to smelts) to Breydon Water, nor to any part of the Stour (Suffolk and Essex) Fishery District, as formed under the provisions of part III. of the Fisheries Act, 1891.

CLOSE TIME—ALL WATERS.

No person shall fish for, otherwise than with rod and line, any trout between the 10th day of September and the 25th day of January, both days inclusive, or any other kind of fish between the 1st day of March and the 30th day of June, both days inclusive, except smelts, bait, and eels, as herein-after provided.

RETURN TO WATER OF FISH IMPROPERLY TAKEN.—ALL WATERS.

Any fish except smelts, eels, or bait taken in any net allowed by the bye-laws to be used for smelts, eels, or bait respectively, shall be immediately returned to the water without avoidable injury.

NETS GENERALLY.

No person shall use or attempt to use

- (1.) Any net between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise, except in the river Ouse below Denver Sluice, and in the river Ness below Wisbeach Bridge.
- (2.) For the purpose of taking fish other than tench, smelts, bait, and eels, any net having a mesh of less than 3 inches from knot to knot.
- (3.) Any net having a wall or facing with a mesh of less than 7 inches from knot to knot.
- (4.) In any navigable river, any bow net or any drag net having a poke or pocket.
- (5.) Any net, unless it is sufficiently weighted to sink vertically in the water; or place two or more nets behind or near to each other, or use any other device or artifice so as practically to diminish the size of the mesh of any net.

USE OF TRIMMERS, &C., IN NAVIGABLE RIVERS.

No person shall use any trimmer, ligger, dead line or snare, or any like instrument in any navigable river within the limits of the Act, except lines for taking eels as herein-after provided.

DRAG NETS.

No person shall use a drag net of any kind in the under-mentioned waters :—

1. The Rivers Yare or Wensum.
2. The River Waveney.
3. The River Bure below the lower entrance into Wroxham Broad.
4. The River Ant below the lower entrance into Barton Broad.
5. The River Thurne below the entrance into Somerton Broad.

except with the previous permission in writing of the Board of Conservators under their Common Seal.

TAKING SMELTS.

Rivers Yare and Wensum.

No person shall use any net in the rivers Yare or Wensum for the purpose of taking smelts, except a cast net or drop net between the 10th day of March and the 12th day of May, both days inclusive, and then only between the New Mills, in the parish of St. Swithin, in the city of Norwich, or Trowse Bridge, in Trowse, or Trowse Newton, and the junction of the rivers Yare and Wensum at a place known as Trowse Hythe, and between Hardley Cross and the junction of the rivers Yare and Waveney; or any cast net or drop net exceeding 16 feet in diameter.

River Waveney.

No person shall use in the River Waveney, above the Burgh Cement Works, any net for the purpose of taking smelts, except between the 10th day of March and the 12th day of May, both days inclusive, and then only at the places and by the means hereinafter mentioned, viz., between Rose Hall Fleet and the Boat-horse Hill, near Beccles, and in the pen of Shipmeadow Lock, by a cast net or drop net not exceeding 16 feet in diameter, and if any such net be used between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise, the same shall be used with a light or flare, and not otherwise.

Rivers Ouse, Nar, and Nene.

No person shall take or kill smelts in the rivers Ouse, Nar, or Nene, between the 1st day of April and the 31st day of August, both days inclusive; or use in those rivers for the purpose of taking smelts, any net having a mesh of less than five-eighths of an inch from knot to knot.

Breydon Water.

No person shall use in Breydon Water, for the purpose of taking smelts, any net in the months of May, June, July, and August, or any net between the 1st day of September and the 30th day of April, both days inclusive, having a mesh of less than five-eighths of an inch from knot to knot.

TAKING BAIT.

Navigable Rivers.

No person shall for the purpose of taking bait in any navigable river (except in the River Ouse below Denver Sluice, and in the River Nene below Wisbeach Bridge), use any net other than a cast net, or any cast net having a mesh of less than five-eighths of an inch from knot to knot.

All Waters.

No person shall use any cast net exceeding 8 yards in circumference, or having a sack or purse exceeding 14 inches in depth, when extended, for the purpose of taking fish for bait. Provided that cast nets up to 12 yards in circumference may be used from 11th October to 1st April; and the word "bait" shall mean roach, rudd, or roach, bream, dace, ruff or pike, gudgeons, and minnows, measuring less than 8 inches from the nose to the fork of the tail.

No person shall net for bait at any time on a Sunday ; or at any time on a week-day except between one hour before sunrise and one hour after sunset, nor unless such bait is for use in angling, or trolling, or taking eels within the limits of the Act.

TAKING EELS.

Rivers Yare and Wensum, above Hardley Cross.

No person shall, for the purpose of taking eels in the rivers Yare and Wensum, above Hardley Cross, use

- (1.) In the months of April, May, and June, any net ; or a line with a hook or hooks, except in connection with a rod used for the purpose of angling.
- (2.) At any other time of the year, a line, whether fixed or not, with more than one hook, except in connection with a rod used for the purpose of angling.
- (3.) Any net other than a skim or skein net.

All Other Waters.

In all other waters lines with one hook only, whether fixed or not, and fixed nets, but no others, may be used at any time for taking eels only.

All Waters.

No person shall use a dag or spear for the purpose of taking fish other than eels.

SUNDAY NETTING—ALL WATERS.

No person shall use any net whatever (except a landing net as auxiliary to angling with rod and line) on a Sunday.
